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INDIE GONE CORPORATE?
Nelson says popularity is ir-
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THE KENYON COLLEGIAN

Gambier, Ohio

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2005

16 Pages

COLIN BOYARSKI, 1986-2005

A friend to all

Incurably generous and beloved by classmates, first-year Colin Boyarski will be missed by the Kenyon community

BY MIKE LUDDERS
Editor-in-Chief

His friends described him as a 'lover,' with a love for community, adventure, and a memorable, winning smile. His greatest strengths in life may, many fear, have also led to an end that came too soon.

Colin Boyarski passed away sometime in the early morning last Sunday, April third. He was found around 9:00 a.m. by a Kenyon maintenance worker, in a small field beside Duff Street. He was 19 years old. According to College physician Dr. Tracy Schermer, there was no sign of violence or trauma, and Colin "looked as if he was at peace." Although the cause of death is officially unknown, both Kenyon's administration and the Knox County Sheriff's office

have stated that alcohol likely played a role. Many eyewitnesses place Colin last at a late night party held in the off-campus 'milk carton' apartments on Duff St. According to most, that he was there late and long and was seen by many, is a sign of what made Colin Colin.

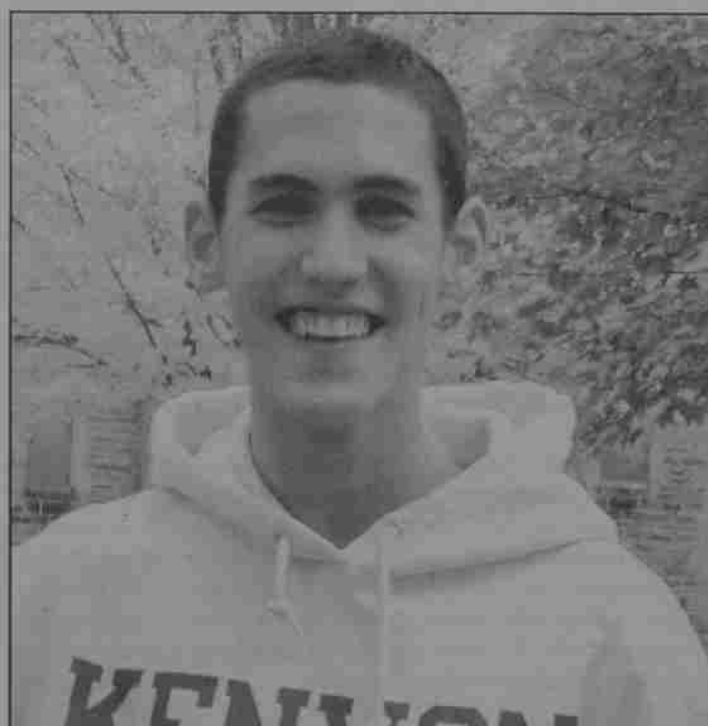
"He was passionate about his friends," said Colin's father Daniel Boyarski of Pittsburgh, Pa. "He spent time with them, he always made sure he'd see them."

"Colin was an amazing person, a great friend," said Kate Majeski '08, in a comment typical of every student who spoke to the *Collegian*. "Remember our last conversation the night he passed, just laughing and goofing around and talking about our summer plans." Added Hilary Haldeman '08, "He loved to be around people, and

everyone loved to be around him."

The qualities that brought Colin close to his classmates were identified by many as a fundamental sense of closeness, generosity, and joy. Hugh Guill '08 said Colin had "an affinity for making the people he cared about happy. ... The kid was never or rarely in a bad mood or angry at anyone. ... In fact, the night he passed away he spent much of it calming down and helping [a friend] who had gotten in a quarrel that night." Lydia Fehiger '06, like others, spoke of a ready smile—in Guill's words a "big, toothy grin"—she will "always remember."

According to parents and professors, Colin's passion for engagement was not limited to his social life, but present in every choice he made. From the constant world travel he engaged in with his family, to a profound intel-



Daniel Boyarski

Colin Boyarski during parents' weekend 2004. Colin's body was found in a field off of Duff Street on the morning of April 3.

lectual curiosity, many paint a picture of a young man who never held back, and cherished new experiences from a very young age.

"When he was a baby," said Colin's mother, Luisa, "... he climbed out of his crib really early see COLIN, page two

Community wakes up to mourn

BY BRYAN STOKES II
Editor-in-Chief

"His loss touches absolutely every one of us," said President S. Georgia Nugent. "So there is a lot of grieving and healing that needs to happen in the campus community. I'm hearing a lot about students who, even if they didn't know Colin, were recently affected by a death, and so this has been harder than it might."

At 8:49 a.m. on April 3 the body of Colin Boyarski '08 was discovered by a maintenance worker in a field north of 109 Duff Street. According to Director of Safety and Security Dan Werner, the Knox County Sheriff's office was contacted at 8:59 a.m., and EMS was dispatched to the scene along with uniformed sheriff's deputies. College Physician Dr. Tracy Schermer determined that Boyarski was deceased.

"As we approached, it was obvious that there was no life," said Schermer. "He was lying on his stomach and it did not appear as if there was any foul play. We wanted to make sure, so I evaluated his person along with the EMS. His identity was found by removing his wallet, and we then summoned the sheriff to come to the scene; the sheriff himself came to the scene."

see LOSS, page three

McKnight appeals to Ohio Supreme Court

BY SEAN RYAN
Staff Reporter

The Ohio Supreme Court in Columbus heard arguments on March 29 on behalf of Gregory McKnight, the man convicted of the murder of former Kenyon student Emily Murray.

During the 22-minute hearing, Ohio public defender Robert Lowe did not specifically deny McKnight's guilt in the case, but instead argued that the death penalty was improperly imposed.

Only McKnight's side was heard in the hearing, as the offices of Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro and Vinton County Prosecutor Timothy Gleeson missed a deadline for filing a response to McKnight's appeal. As a result, they were not permitted to present an oral argument before the court or file written briefs, according to Chief Justice Thomas Moyer. They will be able to participate in later federal appeals, should they occur.

Although Justice Paul Pfeifer said the state was "unfortunately, re-

grettably [and] inexcusably" absent, Gleeson said that he was still not concerned that the Supreme Court might overturn the verdict. Gleeson noted that the Supreme Court does have all of the trial transcripts, the trial court's written decisions and transcripts of its oral decisions.

However, Gleeson did admit that it would have been beneficial for him to have been able to point out various parts of the transcripts from the trial.

In the end, Gleeson said, "It will be clear" that there is "overwhelming evidence [McKnight] is guilty" and that "he received a fair trial."

Lowe spent much of the time discussing excluded "relevant victim impact evidence," namely his repeated contention that Murray "is the type of person who would give McKnight mercy because he is still a father and deserves to be loved and that his children should not have him executed at the hands of the state." Lowe, citing newspaper articles in which the Murphys had been interviewed, said that

see McKNIGHT, page two

JOUSTING JAMMERS



Kevin Guckes

The student band Marquis de Rad performs at Battle of the Bands, held last weekend in the Horn Gallery. Potato Famine won the event and the honor of opening for the featured Summer Sendoff band on April 30.

WEATHER OR NOT

Today: Cloudy with showers. High: 60°F, low: 40°F
Friday: Sunny. High: 59°F, low: 33°F.

Saturday: Partly cloudy. High: 58°F, low: 35°F
Sunday: Partly cloudy. High: 62°F, low: 40°F.

Colin: Kenyon mourns loss of friend, "family member"

CONTINUED from page one

over all the gates we had. ... He always liked to explore different things—explore life." His father said that as Colin grew, so did his curiosity.

"When he was young," said Mr. Boyarski, "he loved to experiment and to explore ... things like smearing Vaseline on a newly-laid carpet to see if anyone would slip on it the way they do in cartoons." In his high school years, said Mr. Boyarski, "[the family] took the kids ... on trips ... he experienced going to Europe, going to Asia, I took him to Australia and New Zealand, and he loved that. He just loved seeing and exploring new places."

At Kenyon, say his professors, Colin's innate curiosity led to intellectual engagement.

According to Colin's advisor, Associate Professor of English Jim Carson, "Colin was a talented and promising student. ... He cared about his academic work, and wanted to do well." This care was most fully expressed according to Colin's friends and father, in the studies of ethics and reasoning Colin conducted with Assistant Professor of Philosophy Yang Xiao. Said Xiao, Colin was possessed of a "genuine need to figure out the best way of living a meaningful life. ... He was always attentive in my [Practical Issues in Ethics] class and his [papers] were a joy to read."

Said Mr. Boyarski of his son's work with Xiao, "I can see why he liked Yang. I remember when he was home for spring break ... and he didn't stop talking about



Kevin Guckes

Students gathered Sunday night for a candlelight vigil at the College gates in memory of Colin Boyarski.

that class and the things he was learning, comparing Eastern and Western philosophies and ethics and so on."

Colin's love of question-and-solution, say parents and friends, brought him to inner-city social work. In the summer of 2004, Colin taught grade-school students from underperforming schools a variety of subjects in a program run by the Montessori foundation. At the time of his death, Xiao was writing a recommendation for Colin to tutor again this coming summer.

Said Jess Gersh '08 "... [Colin] was very concerned with the lack of equality in public schools. ... Colin planned on working with inner city kids again this summer and more, and was very excited about it."

"It was one of those few things he really was ... passionate about," said

Mr. Boyarski. "It points to his social nature, that he's working with these kids. After a few weeks he would come home and tell us stories, about how so-and-so finally understood long division, and things like that. He was proud ... when they got something."

Besides making good friends and drawing him to social work, Colin's extrovert nature also helped lead him to choose Kenyon. According to Mr. Boyarski, "He connected ... he just said he liked the campus a lot and that he was able to meet people who were really friendly." Mr. Boyarski agreed, saying "... we said let's look at a range of schools, urban and some outside of cities ... finally in the end, he said 'I like Kenyon because I like the kids, I identify with the kids here.'"

"They had an upperclass student assigned to take the guys around, and I remember my wife took Colin on this trip and said, 'I didn't see him for the rest of the day.'"

Colin seems to have found a home at Kenyon not only academi-

cally, but personally. Colin's roommate, Colin Maguire '08, said he met Colin as a student who "was a genuinely nice guy, who worked hard and liked to have fun. He was having fun." Colin experimented with several extracurriculars, but found his niche, again, in close friendship and service. Colin was, at the time of his death, part of the pledge class for the Delta Phi fraternity.

Said Mr. Boyarski, rounding out a general description of Colin in his last months, "he was a typical teenager ... someone who is first experiencing life on his own ... in the semester and a half he was at Kenyon, he loved it." On the last night they saw him witnesses agree, Colin was having the time of his life.

With Colin's death and the circumstances surrounding it, the implications for Kenyonites are sobering and personal. President Nugent, when asked about her response to the tragedy, said that overindulgence is a threat to, and a killer at all colleges.

Said Nugent, "at Kenyon, we have not had a death like this in 25 years ... that's just by the grace of God. I can't tell you how many people around campus are looking at each other and saying 'that could have been me.'"

The policy discussions will surely happen, says Dean of Students Don Omahan, but this week "our primary concern must be with Colin [and] ... all that we can do to support those who were closest to [him]."

Omahan, Schermer and others conducted a short public gathering for Colin on the night of April third, followed by a candlelight vigil by the College Gates. Hundreds attended. After the autopsy required by the Sheriff's investigation, Colin's body will be in the care of John A. Freyvoegel Sons Funeral Home, of Oakland, PA. The family has not yet set a date for services. Kenyon College is also planning a memorial service, the date for which has not been set, according to the *Kenyon Fortnightly*.

Colin Boyarski himself will remain close to his friends in the memories of who he was. His friend and former Delta Phi pledge brother Brian Kettler '08 said, "One of the first experiences I have with him was ... we ended up hanging out by McBride until the early hours of the morning."

"Colin was always up late, simply because he sincerely enjoyed being awake. I think that says a lot about Colin. He seemed to truly treasure the time he had on earth. ... The only condolence I can offer to his family is that Colin's spirit and the things he added to this community will never be forgotten by his friends and the entire class of '08. He will be missed."

Editor's note: Bryan Stokes, Megan Shipley, Charlotte Nugent and Jesse Oppenheim contributed reporting to this article.

VILLAGE RECORD

March 30 - April 5, 2005

- Mar. 31, 9:05 a.m. — Fire alarm at McBride Residence. Malfunctioning smoke detector. Maintenance was notified.
- Mar. 31, 11:02 a.m. — Drug possession at Caples Residence.
- Mar. 31, 11:22 a.m. — Medical call regarding student injured in fall at Mather Residence. Student was transported to the Health Center.
- Mar. 31, 3:48 p.m. — Report of non-students skateboarding at the science quad. They were told to leave campus.
- Apr. 1, 10:11 a.m. — Fire alarm at McBride Residence caused by malfunctioning detector. Maintenance was notified.
- Apr. 1, 6:09 p.m. — Medical call to temporary fieldhouse regarding a coach who was hit by baseball. No medical attention was needed.
- Apr. 1, 6:32 p.m. — Altercation among students at Peirce Hall.
- Apr. 1, 11:24 p.m. — Drug usage at Old Kenyon.
- Apr. 2, 1:56 a.m. — Medical call at McBride Residence. College counselor notified.
- Apr. 2, 2:29 a.m. — Unauthorized entry into Ascension Hall. Nothing found to be out of order.
- Apr. 2, 3:22 a.m. — Motor vehicle accident off-campus on Columbus Road. Student transported to hospital by friends.
- Apr. 2, 6:05 a.m. — Medical call at Lewis Hall — ill student. Student was advised to contact the Security and Safety Office if condition worsened.
- Apr. 2, 1:09 p.m. — Possible sexual misconduct at Mather Residence.
- Apr. 2, 3:20 p.m. — Hit and run accident to vehicle parked at Olin lot. Sheriff's office notified for report.
- Apr. 2, 11:28 p.m. — Drug usage paraphernalia — items confiscated from Norton Hall.
- Apr. 2, 3:22 p.m. — Drug paraphernalia found at Norton Hall.
- Apr. 3, 5:29 a.m. — Tampering with fire equipment at Lewis Hall. Extinguisher found in roadway.
- Apr. 4, 1:14 p.m. — Underage possession of alcohol at Old Kenyon.
- Apr. 4, 1:38 p.m. — Underage possession of alcohol at Old Kenyon.
- Apr. 4, 2:04 p.m. — Hit and run vehicle accident. Vehicle damaged, unknown location. Sheriff's Office notified for report.
- Apr. 4, 2:35 p.m. — Drugs (marijuana) in room at Old Kenyon.
- Apr. 5, 9:05 p.m. — Altercation between two students at Olin Library.

McKnight: Convicted murderer appeals

CONTINUED from page one

the Murray family believes that a life sentence "would honor her beliefs."

Lowe contended that the trial court erred by failing to give the defense additional time to develop the testimony of Kathleen Murray, Emily Murray's sister, to this belief.

However, Justices Evelyn Stratton and Pfeifer noted that Ohio law prohibits families from testifying during the penalty phase as to their preference for a sentence, and Justice Terence O'Donnell cited the Supreme Court's decision in *State v. Franklin* (2002), which said that a trial court has no obligation to grant a continuance in the middle of a trial.

Gleeson said that overturning the

verdict based upon Murray's opinion of capital punishment would be unjust. He said that a sentence ought to be imposed based upon the crime itself, not the victim's opinion of the crime's punishment.

The Supreme Court, in particular Justice Pfeifer, seemed more favorably disposed to Lowe's argument that the prosecution did not show sufficient evidence that Murray was taken against her will.

Lowe contended that the prosecution had to show that Murray was specifically taken against her will at a certain point. In addition, Lowe said that a neighbor of McKnight in Vinton County, where Murray's body was discovered, saw Murray driving her car along the road, presumably by

her own will.

Gleeson denied this claim, saying that it is obvious that Murray's liberties were restrained at some point between allowing McKnight into her car and being shot to death. Gleeson speculated that he believed any consent probably stopped sometime right after leaving the College.

Gleeson further stated that he showed in his opening and closing statements as well as throughout the trial that Murray did not take anything with her "that a normal person would take for a three-hour trip," such as clothing or even her toothbrush. In fact, Gleeson said that Murray had in fact already set her alarm for the following day and made plans for the upcoming weekend.

CORRECTIONS

Due to editorial error, information about the Wiggin Street School was misreported last week ("Former VA criticizes Village Council," Mar. 31, 2005). The article stated that the Wiggin Street School will close at the end of the school year. In fact, the school is slated to remain open for several more years, pending the building of a new elementary school in Gambier.

Due to staff error, there was a factual mistake concerning the student activity fee referendum last week ("Fee referendum passes," Mar. 31, 2005). The fee raise will take effect in fall 2006, not fall 2005.

Due to editorial error, two articles were misattributed in the Mar. 3 issue ("Was 'Bette' booed?," Mar. 3, 2005, and "Grave humor questions a family's loss," Mar. 3, 2005). The first article, a review of *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, was written by Michael Porsche. The second article, a review of *Dearly Departed*, was written by Katy Cosse.

The *Collegian* apologizes for any inconvenience caused by these errors.

Tragedy: Campus struggles with absence, cause

CONTINUED from page one

"The transport service arrived, and that's when I spent some more time with Colin and folded his arms and said some prayers and let him know that we would miss him as a community," continued Schermer.

Knox County Coroner Dr. Jeff Bower had Boyarski's body transported to Franklin County for an autopsy. According to Knox County Sheriff David Barber, this decision was made "because of the circumstances. Normally young men don't die out in the middle of a field in a vacant lot. So it's a questionable death."

According to an all-campus Kenyon Fortnightly e-mail, Schermer and Nugent both contacted Boyarski's parents, Daniel and Libby, "to express their condolences and offer assistance in dealing with the tragedy."

Although a cause of death will not be announced by either Bower or the Franklin County coroner until the toxicology screen results are available in four weeks, Barber has determined that alcohol was a factor in Boyarski's death. From the 25-30 interviews of Boyarski's friends, roommates and other acquaintances conducted by Barber and Detective Gary Rohler, who is in charge of the investigation, it has been determined that Boyarski did consume alcoholic beverages on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. According to Barber, the toxicology screen will "tell us the presence or lack of poisons in his

system, and the presence or lack of any controlled substances, illegal or legal, such as prescription drugs or something else."

Barber also noted the frigid temperatures experienced in the area on Saturday night and Sunday morning, creating the possibility of hypothermia. He also suggests that "a combination of controlled substances could have shut down his heart." Preliminary autopsy results have failed to yield anything "remarkable," confirming the initial assessment by Barber that foul play was not a factor in this death. In addition, Boyarski was not found to be missing any personal items.

In the wake of this tragedy, the Kenyon community has banded together to console, support and mourn together. At an evening meeting on Sunday in Gund Commons, Dean of Students Donald Omahan, Schermer and Werner discussed the facts known at that time, while Board of Campus Ministries Director Liz Keeney and Director of Counseling Services Patrick Gilligan discussed means for obtaining support. Gilberto Esqueda '05, a resident advisor in Lewis Hall, where Boyarski resided during the first semester, offered two Psalms for the hundreds of assembled mourners.

The residential life staff has played an integral role in extending support to those struggling to come to terms with this tragic event. Several halls held meetings

and numerous RAs have worked to make themselves more available in the aftermath of these events.

"I was talking with Patrick Gilligan this morning," said Nugent. "And he was saying who knows, maybe there were 100 people on campus who knew Colin, but there are 1600 people who are affected." Gilligan echoed these sentiments, saying, "getting through this will be hard, but if we stick together and support one another I know that we will be okay."

"All of us on the faculty and staff have been talking with students this week about Colin and this tragic event," said Omahan. "Many of those conversations are about Colin, many are personal reflections on the meaning of life, many deal with issues of the College and its student culture, and from there the topics are wide ranging. It is important that people talk about these issues and that we all are prepared to be good listeners. We will learn from one another."

Some questions have been raised about the manner in which this death may affect the College's drinking policies. According to Nugent, Kenyon has not had an alcohol-related death since 1980, 25 years ago. While there are calls from some for a crackdown on underage drinking, the College administration plans to instead gradually appraise and address the situation.

"I foresee no major changes at this time," said Werner. "Incidents like this always give us pause to re-evaluate our policies and procedures. Right now we are focusing on the investigation, but certainly consideration will be given to evaluating our policies and procedures as we look to the future."

"The thing that is the least clear is what will this mean for the Kenyon community in the future," said Nugent. "I am hearing a lot from students, and I know the deans are hearing a lot from students, that this tragedy is confronting them with some questions: do we have the kind of community here that we want to have? Is there a way that we want to change our campus culture? And I can't say at this point what the outcome of those questions will be."

Schermer, however, emphasized the importance of the community mourning without assigning blame or assuming guilt. "The fact is that we mourn his loss, he was a very bright, energetic and fun guy, from what we've heard," said Schermer. "Whether there were other issues, they will come out. If someone saw something but didn't act on it. That has no bearing on this. The fact is that we've lost Colin and we mourn that loss and we are much less for it."

"We also need to take time eventually and reflect on how do we really take care of each other

and if somebody is in trouble how do we really reach out to help them," continued Schermer. "What resources do we have to help each other get well from something that could lead to something like this. No speculation as to what it was, we don't know. I really do want to wait for the coroner's report, I want us all to wait. I won't go into any more speculation than that."

"We have lost a member of our family," said Omahan. "As a family, we need to come closer together to show our support and love for Colin, for the Boyarski family, and for one another. It is through our faith and through our concern for one another that we will be able to determine how best to honor Colin's memory and to make Kenyon a better and stronger place for those that follow us in this special place on this Hill in Central Ohio."

Plans for a campus memorial service are still being discussed. The First-Year Council has provided books in the dining halls for anyone to offer a few words of support to the Boyarski family. The books will remain in dining halls until April 17, when they will be presented to the Boyarskis.

Anyone with information pertinent to the investigation of Boyarski's death is advised to contact the Office of Safety and Security, or Rohler at 393-6800.

Editor's note: Dayne Baughman, Willow Belden, Michael Ludders, Charlotte Nugent and Megan Shipley contributed reporting to this article.

Board of Elections welcomes new chair and new voting machines

BY WILLOW BELDEN
Editorial Assistant

The past few months have been busy for the Knox County Board of Elections, as final decisions were made regarding new voting machines for the county, and staff positions on the Board were reshuffled.

Former deputy director of the Board of Elections Tom McHugh (D) became Director, when Pamela Hinkens (R) left that position to head up the Mid-Ohio Transit Authority. Because regulations dictate that the Director and the Chair of the Board cannot be members of the same party, Gambier Village Solicitor, Republican Party Chair and Board of Elections member Ken Lane became Chairman.

Lane said his role on the Board of Elections has not changed drastically. "The board itself is the same," he said. "We just switched a couple of positions around. We have worked well in the past, and I think we will continue to work well in the future."

The past few months, the Board has been working to choose a vendor for the new voting machines that the County must obtain in order to comply with recent State legislation.

"The Ohio legislature requires that every machine in Ohio have a

voter verifiable paper trail," Lane said. None of the electronic voting machines, such as those currently used in Gambier, meet this requirement. "There is a paper trail in each machine," Lane continued, "but it's locked up, and you can't see it."

The new machines, which will be purchased from a company called Elections Systems and Software, will work in a completely different manner. Voters will be given a paper ballot resembling a scan sheet (similar to those often used for tests in schools), which they will fill out in small kiosks. Voters will then insert their ballots into a scanner.

"The legislature ... wants the voters to have faith in the system," Lane said. Currently, he said, many voters are suspicious because they cannot see exactly what the machines do. Now, they will have something to see for themselves.

Although each polling place will have just one scanner, Lane and Gambier Mayor Kirk Emmert both said the voting process should be much speedier than it was with the old machines. Lane said Gambier will be divided and will have two separate polling places. Secondly, it will only take three seconds to scan each ballot.

"You just put the [ballot] through and you're done," Lane explained. "So three seconds a

person, as opposed to four or five minutes per person."

Moreover, numerous people will be able to fill out ballots simultaneously. "You might have to wait ten seconds [to get to the scanner]," Lane said. But "we don't think we'll see anywhere near the lines."

Lane added that in case of over-congestion at a polling place, it would only be necessary to set up additional tables and kiosks—not bring in more voting machines.

Both Lane and Emmert said they think more could be done further to expedite the voting process in the next election. One of the problems Lane highlighted was that many voters in Gambier were students and had never voted before, were not familiar with the system, and therefore took more time to vote than experienced voters.

"When we get these new machines we'll spend a lot of time before the election to do voter education," Lane said, adding that Gambier could even stage a mock election.

Lane also expressed the opinion that the State should allow absentee voting, regardless of whether a person is actually out of town on election day. "This makes it so much easier for people who can't get out to the polls or just

don't want to," he said. "It helps the Board of Elections because while everybody else is voting at the polls, those votes are being counted. ... So it spreads out the work load more evenly."

Emmert agreed that voters who are unable to vote for legitimate reasons should have the option of absentee voting. But he does not support the idea of absentee voting for those who are present in Gambier and are able to get to the polls.

"Voting absentee may be more convenient for residents," Emmert said, "but is it too much to ask citizens to make the effort to get themselves to the polls, assuming they are mobile and voting can be accomplished with dispatch? Since voting is a civic act and a community event, shouldn't citizens leave their private places of residence and go to a public place to vote?"

Neither Emmert nor Lane think voting should be extended for a period of more than one day, but Emmert said that "if voting is held on a weekday we should be sure that all who are working have time off from work, if necessary, to vote."

Lane pointed to student voting as another issue that should be addressed. "I think we need more definition on what is a citizen of the

State of Ohio," he said. Currently, students who intend to stay around after graduation may vote in Gambier instead of their home state or town. However, Lane said, "I don't know that that is enough involvement in the community to warrant voting in any city you happen to go to school in."

Emmert, on the other hand, said he was "pleased that so many of our students participated in the national election. Whether they do that by voting absentee in their home state or by establishing residence in Gambier is their decision. Before students decide to vote here they should be aware, however, of the possible ramifications in their home state of establishing residence here."

The new voting machines will be cheaper to purchase than the old ones; however, Lane said the new system will be more expensive in the long run because of the cost of printing all the ballots. "In Cuyahoga or Franklin County, the printing costs alone for one election could be a million dollars," Lane said.

However, acquiring the new voting machines is not costing Knox County anything, everything is federally funded. The Secretary of State determines what machinery each county requires and will pay vendors directly.

Annexation issues aired at Smart Growth meeting

BY CHARLOTTE NUGENT
Senior News Editor

"We all have to wake up, because there are some imminent threats to our quality of life here in Monroe Township and the Mount Vernon area," said John Martin, a member of Monroe Citizens for Responsible Development, at last Wednesday's meeting of Knox Citizens for Smart Growth.

About 30 citizens gathered on Wednesday, March 30, at the Mount Vernon Public Library for a meeting of Knox Citizens for Smart Growth (KCSG), a group dedicated to addressing development and building issues in Knox County.

"We try to address pertinent issues that occur in the county in growth and development," said KCSG chair Linda Tucker in a phone interview.

State Representative Thom Collier was on hand to explain the history of a 2003 annexation law he helped pass, which lays out the rules for how property is attached, or annexed, to a municipal corporation such as Mount Vernon. The city of Mount Vernon has grown larger in recent years as new property has been added to the city through annexation.

After Collier's talk, the group heard a presentation from John Martin, a member of Monroe Citizens for Responsible Development (MCRD), about the concerns of citizens in Monroe Township related to annexation and development issues in Knox County. Monroe Township is northeast of Mount Vernon and has lost much

property to the city through annexation.

Collier explained that the annexation reform was passed because of the growth in mid-Ohio. "Part of the reason the reform was necessary for annexation was that so many townships and rural areas were just getting gobbled up [by cities], and tax base was being lost," he said.

Under the old annexation process, "it could take months" for annexation to be approved, "even if it was one parcel and everybody liked the idea," said Collier. "So the townships and municipalities agreed that if annexation was going to be successful, for those properties where there was no dispute, it should be done expediently, with no hindrances."

The new bill laid out five methods by which property contiguous to a city can be annexed to a city, but it is "Expedited Type 2" that has been the focus of contention in the Mount Vernon area. Expedited Type 2 annexation allows for a streamlined process of property annexation because individuals can form "paper townships" with their property.

When a property owner forms a "paper township" with Expedited Type 2 annexation, "[The property owner] would remain in the township as far as the property was concerned," said Collier. "The property taxes would continue to stay with the township so the township wouldn't lose, [the owner] would continue to receive services that they perhaps enjoyed from the township, and ... the city could

continue on with their expansion if that was the mutual agreement."

However, a problem unforeseen when the bill was passed was that property owners might try to annex their property to a city even if the city did not desire the annexation. "Nobody would have thought to say 'if the city wants it,' because it hadn't been an issue before," said Collier. "Perhaps today it is."

Collier said that because Expedited Type 2 annexation was designed to be a quick process, the only way that the city can reject an application for annexation is if there is a technical error in the way the application is filed.

Collier believes that the problem can be solved in two ways. "We are drafting some amendments that will address the issue relatively simply," said Collier. "Number one, the Expedited Type 2 annexation process would say if the city wants the land or the annexation to happen, they could use Expedited Type 2." Collier said it could take anywhere from two months to a year and a half to get the amendments passed, though he does not expect any controversy over them at the state level.

Collier also said that such "unwanted" Expedited Type 2 annexations could not have happened if there were pre-existing agreements between the city and surrounding townships as to which of the 5 types of annexation processes could be used.

After Collier spoke, Martin used a PowerPoint presentation to outline key concerns that members of

MCRD have about development in Knox County. "Things have reached the juncture now where we can't afford to fight amongst ourselves, because the developers are going to take our town out from under us and we'll be fighting in thin air," he said.

Martin said that one of strongest wishes of MCRD was that Coshocton Road development remain where it has currently halted, just west of Upper Gilchrist Road.

"In the last few years, there has been what we in Monroe Township have come to call a 'line of demarcation' between Mount Vernon and rural Monroe Township, and that line of demarcation is Upper Gilchrist Road," said Martin. "It's as if the development is crowding up to this line of demarcation as closely as possible."

Martin gave a number of reasons why MCRD does not want Coshocton Road development extended, including caring for Wolf Run Park, Knox County's only regional park, which is located in Monroe Township, and maintaining the rural character of Kenyon College.

Instead of developing annexed township land in this way, Tucker says that KCSG supports development within the current Mount Vernon city limits. "There's plenty of room for that," she said.

Martin cited a Monroe Township referendum last fall in which a new development was defeated as an example of local citizens' opinions about development. "We showed what we felt about planned development last

year when we passed a referendum against a 254-home development by over 70 percent," said Martin. "In the same election, a township trustee who supported the development and had been in for a number of terms was beaten by a complete novice who ran against that development."

"I'm wearing my heart on my sleeve," said John Fair, a Mount Vernon City Council member, when he stood to speak at the meeting. "Everything in those slides I feel ... If developers have all the power, that's not right."

Martin said that MCRD is planning a rally in front of City Hall to bring attention to the issue of development in Knox County. "We are also exploring legal options to stop or stall [annexations]," Martin told the *Collegian* in an e-mail.

But Martin is unsure if Collier's promised legislation will put an end to MCRD's annexation woes. "We will have to wait and see what form the annexation amendment(s) take," he said. "However, Monroe Township also needs service and geographic annexation agreements with the city. In addition, Monroe Township needs a comprehensive plan for its future and relevant changes in its zoning code."

"Lots of people also say you can't stop progress, that people are moving here and there's nothing you can do about it, that growth and progress are one and the same," said Martin. "But it ain't so. In the human body, cancer is growth but it damn sure ain't good progress."

Admissions updates software to deal with influx of applications

BY JEFF FORCE
Staff Reporter

Since last summer, the Office of Admissions has been using more technology to aid officers in dealing with a record number of applications, including new data management software and more laptops for personnel, without abandoning their traditional hands-on approach to reading applications.

The changes came about after the producer of Kenyon's old admissions software underwent a merger and stopped supporting its product. "We were forced into changing to the Recruitment Plus system from the College Board, but it gives us advantages," said Ronald Griggs, Di-

rector of Information Services. Data about prospective students can be sent electronically from their high schools and the software even allows their application to be filled out online. PSAT and SAT scores can also be loaded into student dossiers automatically.

Beverly Morse, Associate Dean of Admissions, wanted to stress that the technology "will not change the goals or decisions of admissions." Admissions still tries to know the prospective students well and still reads each application at least twice. "We are committed to taking into consideration writing skill, course difficulty, and building a community ... a computer cannot read holistically or understand community balance," she said. Griggs noted that while "computers can help

to a certain extent, in presenting more information to admissions and enabling them to handle more data," it still takes "human beings around a table" to make choices.

Because of the growing number of applicants to Kenyon, up from 2,000 in 2001 to just under 4,000 this year, the Office of Admissions had to hire readers, often from current Kenyon faculty and staff, who were then given training. Even so, Morse said, it still took "between fifteen and thirty minutes to read through a folder for one student." The Department of Information Services has not needed to increase their staff, though they are doing "lots of work in converting and upgrading to keep the software reporting properly" according to Glen

Turney, Director of Institutional Information.

So far, the new systems have been used primarily to reduce time wasted on typing in information and to transfer data between departments. "One thing Kenyon does is to provide feedback to prospective students, especially with music and sports recruitment," said Turney. This means data has to be moved often and without error, and the new system makes that easier. Morse said the old system included liaisons between departments and that it was often "hard for [the liaisons] to share information if they were not personally reading the application."

Admissions staff are also being equipped with laptop computers and

docking stations, meaning they do not have to transfer data between a home computer and an office computer. It also allows them increased ease of communication while traveling because each laptop is capable of communicating over a secure encrypted channel with Kenyon's network through the use of a Virtual Private Network. This VPN means admissions staff can send information back to Kenyon as they receive it, without having to wait until their trip ends.

Overall, Admissions seems pleased with the changes. "We used to get twenty buckets of mail over Christmas break," said Morse, "and spending ten or twelve hours a day staring at a computer screen typing it all in was draining."

Deer are a doozy: Village Council hears residents' concerns

BY ROSE BABINGTON
Staff Reporter

"There was a time," intoned Gambier resident and Kenyon Writer in Residence P.F. Kluge at Monday's Village Council meeting, "when you could count on hemlock and holly surviving the winter," in regards to what he called the deer "infestation" in the village.

While the meeting focused on a number of issues, including village water improvements and the ongoing zoning code revisions, the discussion of the high number of deer arose when Mayor Kirk Emmert opened the floor to the audience. Kluge, who initiated the discussion because of the problems he has had with deer on his property,

noted that the transport of deer and the usage of birth control devices for deer had previously "been considered and found impractical." After commending Kluge on his "well-spoken" remarks, Council President Tom Stamp concurred, saying that, in addition to the "inability to garden in Gambier," the overpopulation of deer has also led to "people always narrowly avoiding traffic accidents."

Kluge suggested that authorizing hunters on village property as simple removal of the deer is only a temporary solution. Added Council member Liz Forman, "Once we create a vacuum, more will come in." Because of the high costs that the village would incur by hiring professional hunters and then paying to process the deer meat,

as pointed out by Council Clerk-Treasurer Mary Samuelli, Emmert resolved that both he and Village Administrator Rob McDonald would contact officials from outside of Gambier before pursuing the issue further.

Emmert and McDonald both reported that several water leaks had been found and repaired in the last month in the village. McDonald also commented that the fire hydrant outside of the Community Center was found to be leaking around 200 gallons per day and had been repaired. To continue to improve the water system in Gambier, McDonald contacted Aqualine, a utilities company that has "more sensitive equipment than Underground Utilities," the village's current provider of leak-detection

services. Although the village plans to stay with Underground Utilities, McDonald and Emmert noted that the Aqualine system will allow for McDonald to monitor any unusual water usage more closely, and Village Council authorized \$2,300 to be spent for leak detection.

Samuelli also noted the significant drop in the water bill from the previous year. "The new water bill came in today, and it's stunningly low," she announced, comparing the \$16,596 total from March 2005 to a \$29,000 bill from March 2004.

Emmert, in his Mayor's Report, mentioned that the revisions to the zoning code suggested by lawyer Mitch Banchevsky would be an additional expense that was not covered in

Banchevsky's contract. Rewriting the code, according to Emmert, is "not something that can be done by amateurs only, people like ourselves" because "you have to fit PUD language into the code." Emmert estimated that Banchevsky would require eight to ten hours, at \$200 per hour, to make necessary revisions. Once Banchevsky makes an estimate of the cost, Council will need to vote to approve the extra expenditure. "It's basically a matter of money," said Emmert.

Village Council also approved June 4 as the date of the spring Dumpster Day and June 18 as the date of Garage Sale Day. Forman commented on how much residents appreciate those days, organized by the village, as well as the "great recycling program."

Faculty, students go head-to-head for fundraiser

Students defeated in well-fought game, Archons raise money for preschool

BY ISAAC MILLER
Staff Writer

To be honest, it was not what anyone would call a "game for the ages," but those who helped, watched and participated in the student-versus-faculty basketball game all had a great time doing it, cheering on their teams and playing each other, all while helping the Archon Society support a worthy cause.

The game is a traditional Archon fundraiser, which according to a couple of members goes back to 1997. This year it benefitted the Gazebo Preschool here in Gambier, for general purposes. The Archons accepted donations and sold raffle tickets and snacks. The cost of a ticket was one dollar, and there were drawings for prizes, mainly gift certificates to local restaurants. The snacks included water, various sodas, chips, cakes and candies, costing from 25 cents to a dollar.

The event was a source of stress for several of the Archon members from the start. After they arrived at 6:30 p.m. to begin setting up, they quickly discovered that several key elements were not in place. There was no

change for the concessions, a basketball goal had been raised, and they had forgotten to secure a sound system, although they did have Professor of English William Klein as an announcer. However, all of these problems were soon solved. The Archon

members seemed to handle the setbacks with level heads and had fun.

Sarah Hillenbrand '07, president of the Archon Society, said that she found it "really hectic getting everything pulled together, some of it at the last

The game actually started off quite well for the students. They opened with a 7-0 run which featured a three-point basket by Hace, and they led throughout most of the second half. However, with the scrappy play Xiao and two straight fast break layups

quite indignant over this, tossing a bag onto the court, prompting his first ejection. He got another for offering Grady a pair of glasses. He also tried to throw a folding chair onto the court, but his third ejection attempt was foiled because the chair was too difficult to close.

Melick claimed that his behavior was warranted, explaining, "I hate to see the efforts of the faculty team frustrated by a single referee ... I just cannot stand still when I see the sweat pouring off my teammates' brows. Someone has to stand up for what is right." In any case, the faculty won 46 to 39.

The game featured some great highlights and entertaining performers. These included "Doc" Locke's shirt, which made him look like he had the body of a fit young man, Salva's first time back on the court since playing here in the '70s (she said the "court seemed longer, the hoop seemed higher, and the clock seemed slower"), an amazingly high arching shot by Kauffman, the antics of Melick and the scrappy play of Xiao, who modestly claimed, "I didn't contribute much to our win. ... I might have a better chance if we were playing soccer." According to the players, they all had a great time.

If there was any problem with the event, it was the crowd, or lack thereof. About 25 people watched the game, a figure almost matched by the number of participants.

However, Hillenbrand said that she was not disappointed with the turnout. "In all honesty, we weren't expecting much more," she said. "I think unless people knew someone in the game or one of their professors was playing, they really had no reason to go, but considering that, and the fact that it was a random Thursday night, it was OK."

Locke put it differently, saying "I suppose that the students learned that they had no hope of defeating [the faculty], so they opted to study instead."

The Archons did come reasonably close to reaching their informal goal of \$400, raising \$310.30 for the Gazebo Preschool. According to treasurer Laura Bomar, the amount is much more than was raised at last year's game.



Kevin Guikes

Norman Kaufmann dribbles down the court, with faculty members close at his heels. Although the students lost by a considerable margin, both teams competed to provide a successful and entertaining fundraiser.

minute, but it was awesome how everyone ... stepped up where they were needed and made it a really fun event."

Players began arriving around 7 p.m. Both teams seemed to be very relaxed and confident. The players for the students were Maddie Bahar '05, Elly Deutch '08, Elliot Forhan '08, Emma Haberl '07, Patty Hace '08, Norm Kaufmann '07, Will O'Keefe '07, Ieshia West '08 and Siobhan Williams '05.

The faculty team consisted of Associate Director of Admissions Jill Atkinson, Assistant Softball Coach Rachel Burleson, Assistant Dean of Students Chris Kennerly, Assistant Professor of Drama Daniel Kramer, Professor of Music Benjamin "Doc" Locke, Dean for Academic Advising Jane Martindell, Associate Professor of Economic Will Melick, Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian and French James Mitchell, Head Softball Coach Stephanie Monday, Coordinator of Disability Services Erin Salva, Visiting Assistant Professor of Drama Julian Sheppard, Assistant Tennis Coach Michael Vann and Assistant Professor of Philosophy Yang Xiao.

The students seemed a bit more anxious, apparently eager to win. Their goals, according to Deutch, were to "have fun and make them look silly for being the 'old people'."

The faculty's scheme, on the other hand, was a little simpler.

"Our strategy was not to have heart attacks while running the length of the court," as Locke phrased it.

Random MOMENTS

Complete the sentence:

"Spring, the time when _____."



"Gambier smells like ... ???"
—Lauren Newland '07

"You should register for the Circle K 5K."
—Kim Ziegler '07 and Traci Gau '08



"People make out in Peirce."
—Nancy Cass '05



"Nancy spends too much time watching us."
—Phil Waller '07 and Ian Brantly '07



BY MARA ALPERIN AND JESSE OPPENHEIM

Write for Features!

Contact alperinm@kenyon.edu

[illegible]

Kenyon Decides: Round One

Chair of Student Lectureships



Mike Zabek

I think being chair of Student Lectureships is probably the most fun position on Student Council. I think what I do on Senate, for instance, is important, and I would like to continue it, but I also would love to take a leadership role in getting these awesome people to come and lecture.

I have been a member of the committee for all of my one year here at Kenyon and have taken an active role in it. Beyond that, I have broad tastes and am open to outside ideas. I will also work hard.

I would like to bring a lot of speakers from the sciences, for instance there's a guy who has recrafted the food pyramid named Walter Willet. I'm also excited about a black economist—Roland Fryer—who is doing statistics and economics based studies of the black community and how they relate to whites. Besides that, people like Cornell West and Barack Obama are absolute dreams of mine, but they just might be prohibitively expensive.

Last year was on the whole good for the committee and I think we can have another positive year. I would, to some extent, like to publicize a bit more.

Chair of Safety and Security

Candidate
did not
submit photo

John Baker

The Office of Security and Safety gets a bad reputation among students at Kenyon. While I understand there will always be a stigma of distrust between students and security officers due to the office's role, I feel that there could be a much better understanding between the two. It should not be an us versus them issue. In light of recent events, we must acknowledge their importance and necessity on campus.

I have worked with the Office of Security and Safety as both a Residential Advisor and a Admissions student driver. Although there is much I do not know about it, I am positive I have a solid grasp on the office and how it works.

At the beginning of the year, Residential Life tried to enact an "Adopt-an-Officer" program, where each first-year residence hall got two officers to handle any minor problems that might pop up. The mission was created so that incoming students could identify with an officer, and therefore put a face on what sometimes doesn't have one. This program has slowly deteriorated over the year, but I feel that it could be done strongly in the future.

Candidate
did not
submit photo

Peter Case

Candidate chose not to present a profile.

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Polls open Today
@ 7 p.m.

Polls close
Tuesday April 7
@ 10 p.m.

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Chair of Housing and Grounds



Steve Hands

I currently am the Housing and Grounds Chair and have enjoyed working with other students and the administration to improve housing options for all students. This is the position I have wanted since I came to Kenyon.

I have a lot of experience, considering I was on the committee last year and am Chair of the Housing and Grounds Committee this year. I also am currently working with the Master Plan as part of an advisory committee to the new campaign. This has helped me understand the direction in which the College is hoping to move.

I am currently working with my committee to revamp the lottery process to make it less painful. I will continue that effort and continue working with the College to improve housing options, hopefully adding new dorms and apartments in the near future.

I am very excited about the new coed apartments policy and look forward to see how it works out for all the people interested.

Candidate
did not
submit photo

Michael Schnapp

Candidate chose not to present a profile.

You've read about
the Candidates.
Now you know.
And knowing is
half the battle!

Student Council President



Sam Shopinski

I view the role of Student Council President as a moderator for all Student Council. This person is responsible for representing the values of the entire student campus and supporting that through regular discussions between students, faculty, and administrators.

After working in Student Council this year with the Committee on Student Life, I believe the current student initiative on health may be the most important issue carrying into next year. I would like to work with Residential Life to review the lottery process and off-campus housing and work with the CDC to expand career development services. Lastly, I would like to open discussions more regularly with LBIS to voice student concerns on personal technology.

Kenyon as a community is a setting where students are able to actively voice their concerns to administrators and faculty and know their opinions are well received. For the past three years, I have worked with the Committee on Student Life, this year as chair and VP for Student Council, and have been able to actively listen to student concerns. I have grown to appreciate how the Kenyon community has impacted me and hope to contribute back regarding many student issues.

Student Council Treasurer/ Chair, Business and Finance Committee



Billy Callis and Aaron Gutting

We both served on the Business and Finance Committee for the 2004-05 Academic Year.

We are engaged members of the campus community and experienced members of the BFC, and we think that we can improve the allocation process for the greater good of the Kenyon student body.

We will work for more equitable allocation of funds and do our best to alleviate the funding shortcomings that many groups have experienced in the past.

We would like to increase the depth and clarity of communication between the student body and the Business and Finance Committee. We think we as Student Council Co-Treasurers should work closely with the Office of Accounting to expediate the reimbursement process for student groups.



We decided to run as Co-Treasurers because, between us, we have knowledge and experience regarding a broad range of student groups and activities, and we understand the needs of the student body.



Candidate
did not
submit photo

Lili Bitting and Dave Ginzer

Dave and Lili both have two years' experience on the BFC. In addition, Dave served on the Freshman and Sophomore Class Committees, two years on Student Life, and one year on Safety and Security, and Lili has served on the Freshman Class Committee and Greek Council.

We believe the position of Student Council Treasurer is important to the students, and we feel we will do it well. In addition to sitting on council, the position calls for heading the BFC, of which we have both been members for two years. The events of this year have caused us to believe the position would be best handled. The BFC affects every student at Kenyon, and we feel the chair would most effectively be served by two members.

Candidate
did not
submit photo

In addition, prior to this year, it was held as a co-position, which we feel went smoothly.

We believe making the rules and regulations of the BFC more accessible to the student body is one issue that needs to be addressed. In addition, issues such as the budget crunch and the implementation of the new student activities fee for the second semester budget requests will be major issues for the BFC.

As mentioned above, we need to make the policies of the allocation process more available in order to remedy confusion for the leaders of organizations. And, again, the implementation of the new student activities fee, although not in effect for next year, will affect the spring budgeting process.

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Our brother's keepers

It was an e-mail that none of us could ever want to receive. One of our own, whom many of us had not yet had the chance to even meet, no longer walked among us. On Sunday morning, Colin Boyarski '08 lay lifeless in a grassy field, and no one knew exactly why.

So, in fine Kenyon form, hundreds of us crowded the floor of Gund Commons Ballroom on Sunday night, many in tears, waiting to learn that this information, which seemed all too surreal in the morning, was solidly true. After the meeting, some marched to hold a candlelight vigil, and Student Affairs office staffers burned the midnight oil. Others attended hall meetings to support and to be supported. In tragedy, we banded together. Dividing lines were erased as we joined together to mourn.

Nonetheless, it is extremely difficult to accept that such a tragedy has happened here. We in Gambier have always prided ourselves on the fact that this is a uniquely safe community. Even with that knowledge, we take extra precaution to prevent anyone from falling victim to violent crimes. We report suspicious people, we (sometimes) lock our room doors at night, we have blue-light phones and security escorts.

Colin's death, however, reminds us that the danger is not always the result of outsiders. In our young moment, we must remember to be ever vigilant to, at times, protect people from themselves. Just because it is "safe" to walk alone at night, doesn't mean that we should permit our friends to do so, especially when they are under the influence of any substance. Just because someone can "handle" 16 beers without vomiting, doesn't mean that we should let them drink them.

Certainly, one doesn't ever wish for change to only occur when such tragedy strikes. Nonetheless, such tragedy must serve as an opportunity to reevaluate policies, practices and ideas which have heretofore been taken for granted. President Nugent's recent informal conversations on drinking culture are a positive first step in light of this incident.

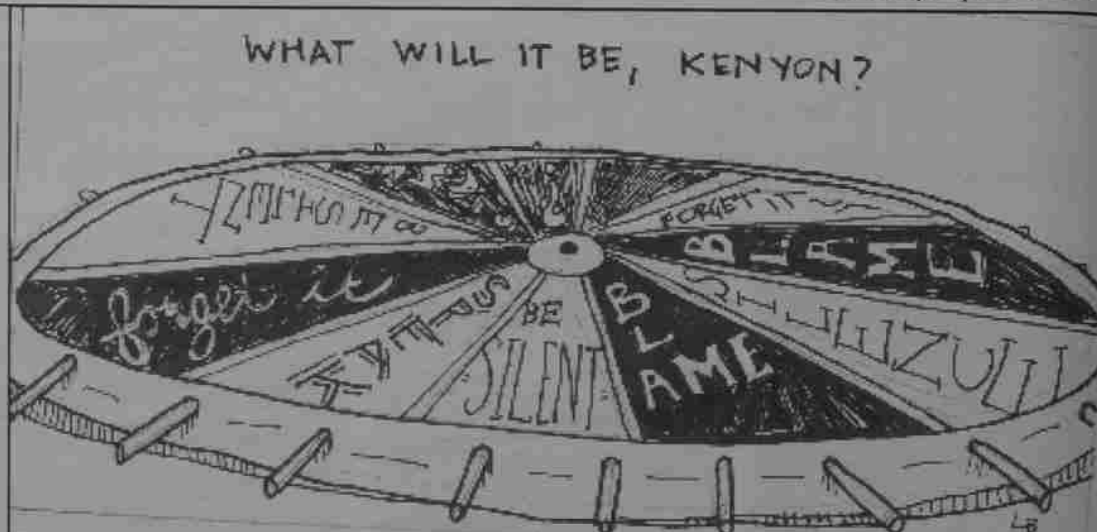
The student body, however, cannot remain complacent in this process. The Kenyon safety net has failed here, and we must work together to find out why. We must make progressive steps towards addressing the drinking problem which has collectively developed on this campus. Both those who choose to drink and those who choose not to drink must serve as responsible examples for younger classes. Most importantly, we must truly heed the ubiquitous and oft-ignored caution to watch out for one another's safety. If five people go to the Milk Cartons for a party, then five people should come out together to walk home. Leave no person behind.

Former mayor of Cincinnati Jerry Springer, who spoke on campus in the fall of 2003, traditionally ends each episode of his show exhorting his audience to "take care of yourselves and each other." Although the general subject matter of his show may not appeal to many, this is truly a message that we should all take to heart. As we mourn for Colin, let us take time to circle the proverbial wagons and ensure that our family never again loses a member in this way.

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"Right to life" is not so simple

BY JAMES LEWIS '04

Guest Columnist

My wife is a medical professional. She has instructed me not to take any heroic measures in the event of her severe incapacitation in order to preserve her life. In the last few weeks as I have watched the news, often with my wife by my side, I have turned to her and asked her repeatedly what she would want from me if she were in a persistent vegetative state. My wife has repeatedly affirmed that she would not want her life preserved through extraordinary means, even in the form of a feeding tube.

My wife's wishes should not hold sway over others, and it certainly does not shed any light upon what Terri Schiavo may or may not have wanted. In this world, we may very well never know the answer to that question. But knowing my wife's wishes did cause me to view Bryan Stokes' column of last week a bit warily. While I do not doubt Mr. Stokes' sincerity and I cannot deny that his column was both ideologically consistent and powerfully written, I cannot help but feel that the righteous indignation fueling his column is both inappropriate and misplaced.

Mr. Stokes is not sparing in his condemnation of Michael Schiavo and the courts. He calls Mr. Schiavo an "adulterer," and shamelessly attacks Schiavo's two children by his common-law wife fiancée as "illegitimate." But those sorts of character attacks are meaningless straw men in this argument that are best left to the self-righteous.

Mr. Stokes also attacks the courts. Pinella County Judge George Greer is "barbaric." According to Mr. Stokes, the courts refuse to consider any evidence that she might be minimally conscious. Apparently, Mr. Stokes knows little about the history of this case. The courts have considered these arguments again and again. This case has a long history in Florida's court system, and both sides have gotten a chance to present their case to the courts at length. No one has been denied their day in a courtroom. Unless Mr. Stokes a) knows something about Judge Greer and the rest of the Florida state court system as well as federal court system that no one else knows or b) has enrolled in Kenyon College's nascent medical school as well as visited at length with Mrs. Schiavo in order to

render an intelligent medical opinion, he is simply not prepared to offer an opinion on the fairness of the court's rulings. He may not agree, as a layman, with the court's ruling, but to categorically condemn it without sufficient knowledge is wrongheaded and, quite frankly, unworthy of this paper's pages.

But all of those are minor stylistic flaws to Mr. Stokes' argument. The most glaring problem is that he has chosen to equate the tragedy of the Schiavo case with a larger cultural problem: that which Mr. Stokes sees as fundamental disdain for life shown by our nation in its laws. He is wrong on this count.

Whatever one feels about the death penalty and abortion, one must acknowledge that this case is different. In allowing the death penalty to be administered and in protecting a woman's right to an abortion, our nation's laws disregard the wishes of those who are most keenly affected by the decision—I'll leave it up to the reader to decide whether or not they should be called victims. The laws also leave room for the legal end of life or potential life. In this case, the court earnestly attempted to ascertain the wishes of Mrs. Schiavo, and based on medical evidence and the testimony of her husband, they determined that she did not want to be kept alive by extraordinary means.

I firmly believe that life is precious, a gift from the Creator. But I do not believe that life should be preserved at all costs. In my own case, there are even instances when the use of medical treatment to preserve life is in direct contravention of God's commands. My desire to please God is so strong that I would rather die than accept those treatments.

In the event that I cannot speak

for myself, I cannot think of anyone that I would trust to speak for me more than my wife. No one is more qualified to represent my core beliefs and to bear witness to my values. I do not agree with all of Mr. Schiavo's personal choices. But after exhaustive examination, the courts have not found any reason to strip him of his status and his rights as Mrs. Schiavo's husband. I myself can only hope that, while he may not have honored Mrs. Schiavo in the way he lives his own life, he has chosen to honor her in the most important way—by truly representing her wishes in this most important question of life and death.

I do, however, agree with Mr. Stokes, that this case has shown our nation's fundamental disregard for life. Rather than treating this case with due solemnity, we have turned a woman's last moments and her family's pain into a circus. News media outlets breathlessly report the latest development in her health status while hosting pundits to pound their fists and denounce their enemies as loudly as possible in the intermittent quiet moments. Professional protestors flock to her deathbed to bring attention to their agendas and in some cases bring disorder to her grieving family's lives. Respect for the sanctity of life is not just reflected in feelings on abortion, the death penalty and other end of life issues.

Respect for life is also reflected in how one uses it and what one does to make life truly better for others. The tragic case of Mrs. Schiavo shows us that many are willing to spout the rhetoric of life. But how many are truly willing to live a life that truly honors the substance of life? Right now, days after the death of Mrs. Schiavo, the answer is not very appealing.

REACHING THE COLLEGIAN

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The opinion page is a space for members of the community to discuss issues relevant to the campus and the world at large. The opinions expressed on this page belong only to the writer. Columns and letters to the editors do not reflect the opinions of the Kenyon Collegian staff. All members of the community are welcome to express opinions through a letter to the editors. The Kenyon Collegian reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and clarity. The Collegian cannot accept anonymous or pseudonymous letters. Letters must be signed by individuals, not organizations, and must be 200 words or less. Letters must also be received no later than the Tuesday prior to publication. The Kenyon Collegian prints as many letters as possible each week subject to space, interest and appropriateness. Members of the editorial board reserve the right to reject any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College.

Rethinking the Church after John Paul II

ELLEN PIERSON
Staff Columnist

In many ways I guess I've had the typical experience of the "technically Catholic" girl in a quasi-religious family. Uninspired by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, I celebrated confirmation as a symbol of my freedom from "religious education"—in other words, the ceremony marked an end to my formal religious life in a more significant way than it marked a beginning. My attitude towards the Church has often ranged from indifference to contempt. I've attended Mass sporadically—but I've always been indignant about the Church's exclusion of women, denouncement of birth-control and abortion, persecution of homosexuals, and many other "doctrinal" positions that I consider to be unprogressive.

I never had any particular vendetta against the Pope, but for as long as I can remember he has been hindered by health issues and I never paid that much attention to him. Not surprisingly, my attitude towards his death was initially somewhat irreverent. When my roommate who isn't even Catholic made an innocent comment about his illness, I found myself flippantly replying, "Oh, he's old, old people die every day—and besides I don't think he's been doing much lately anyway." Despite my outward nonchalance, however, all of the attention focused on the Pope forced me to consider many of my own unresolved issues with the Church.

When I looked at the cover of the New York Times on Saturday, I was surprised to see that essentially the entire front page was covered with news about John Paul II and the reactions of Catholics all around the world. The outpouring of emotion was touching, even if I couldn't share in it personally. I had never realized how much this man—the symbol of a global faith—meant to so many people. The hierarchical nature of the Church and the concentration of power in the hands

of a small number of men have their downsides, but this arrangement also gives the Church the ability to plug into a huge base of support, creating a potential for unifying power that may be unparalleled in other major faiths.

News of the Pope's death came shortly before the weekly Catholic Mass at the chapel. I had never attended a Mass at Kenyon before, but I felt compelled to mark this significant event in Catholicism in some way, so I decided to go. As I stood there repeating responsorials that I was surprised to remember, I wondered vaguely whether I was just another face in the crowd or whether in the relatively small congregation everyone else present realized that this had been my first trip to Mass all year. I also wondered how I could account for this allegiance that I still felt I had to the Catholic Church.

I've always derived some sense of satisfaction in knowing that my Irish ancestors maintained their Catholic faith basically in contempt of the oppressive English presence—Catholicism helped them to maintain a distinct cultural identity through 700 years of enduring the status of second-class citizens in their own land. When friends ask why I don't leave the Church, I sometimes give this as a reason. But there are other reasons as well. Despite my differences with the Church I do see some of my values there.

The Catholic Worker Movement, in particular, epitomizes what I see as the best of Catholicism. The movement was founded in America in 1933 by a woman named Dorothy Day. The Catholic Worker Movement combines elements of the Franciscans and the Benedictines, but is quite small and loosely organized. Volunteers run "houses of hospitality" in which food, clothing, and shelter are extended to those in need. Catholic Worker communities are also known for support of labor unions, racial tolerance, human rights, co-

operatives, and the development of a nonviolent culture. Those active in the Catholic Worker movement are often pacifists.

Although I'm ambivalent towards religious political parties, I also see the various European "Christian Democrats" as a significant Catholic contribution to the goals of social justice. These parties emphasize that they are actually not specific to any Church, but many of them were originally and still are Catholic. Christian Democrats played an important role in rebuilding Europe after the chaos of WWII and in bringing the continent into an age of greater cooperation. I don't agree with everything they do, but their main focus tends to be on social issues and on equalizing opportunity. It is these "Social Catholics" that I identify with—the people who emphasize our responsibility to our fellow man.

Despite the many sarcastic comments I have made about the Church over the years, and despite my genuine disillusionment with it at times, I still somehow feel that I cannot simply disassociate myself from it. Maybe I am the one who is wrong here. Maybe if I can't bring myself to accept all of the Church's teachings then I should leave it instead of picking and choosing which Catholic tenets I want to adopt. Possibly most Catholics would not even consider me as one of their own—I'm not entirely sure. Until such a time when I am excommunicated, however, I still plan to identify myself as a Catholic and I intend to remain engaged in the politics of the Church.

In the divided political climate of the United States, many people associate the Catholic Church with the platform of the religious right. This is understandable, as the Church has made headlines for its stance against issues such as gay marriage and abortion—notably when certain clerical figures refused Senator John Kerry the sacrament as a symbolic opposition to his pro-choice views. Regardless of several key instances

of overlap with the Christian Right, however, the Catholic Church also supports a wide range of things that you will rarely hear right-wing Christians mention.

For example Rick Santorum (R), noted Catholic senator from Pennsylvania, takes every opportunity to attribute his opposition to abortion to faith—but the Catholic Church is also opposed to the death penalty and yet this aspect of the faith has not made its way into Santorum's political agenda. Clearly I am not the only one who picks and chooses which Catholic political positions to espouse.

Coverage of Catholic opposition to the death penalty and to war—while not totally absent—is far less frequent than coverage of opposition to abortion and to gay marriage. I am completely confident that there are Catholics who work hard to oppose the war and the death penalty, but their efforts are not being emphasized by the media or even by the Church. I am by no means suggesting that all Catholics abandon pro-life and anti-gay marriage stances. These issues are important to the Church and it's perfectly reasonable for Catholics to be involved in the politics behind them. The Church could do a lot more, though, to promote political efforts behind abolition of the death penalty, peace, and the fight against poverty.

The new Pope will have a real opportunity to achieve this. Uninhibited by failing health, this man will be able to take a more active role in defining how the Church will convey its message both to the world's billion Catholics and to the global public. Obviously the politics of Catholicism extend beyond the limited context of United States politics, but the effects of a new direction in Church leadership would be felt everywhere and would have a multi-faceted impact.

Although no one can predict what will happen with the election

of a new Pope, some have suggested the possibility of a representative of the third-world filling the office. This would be an affirmation of the fact that the Church has changed drastically over the past century and that much of its support now does lie in the third world and not in Europe. While perhaps not on the same scale as efforts like the Council of Trent and Vatican II, this would be seen as a substantial message that the Church does recognize and affirm the reality of changing times.

Among the third-world candidates are Cardinal Francis Arinze, a Nigerian with experience in handling dialogue with leaders of other religions—including Islam—and Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga, archbishop of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, who advanced social justice agendas as the president of the Federation of Latin American Bishops' Conferences. The appointment of one of these men could go a long way in focusing Catholic and global attention on the plight of poverty in underdeveloped countries as well as other social justice issues.

John Paul II did make important changes in the Church's image early on in his papacy by supporting the democratic movement in Poland, and later by expressing his interest in and acceptance of other faiths. The outpouring at the death of John Paul II is a physical reminder of the magnitude of his influence and the symbolic power that the new Pope will have.

If even people like me, who identify themselves as "technically Catholic," felt compelled to go to Mass to mark his passing, then I think it's safe to say that even the non-orthodox do care deeply about the example that the Pope sets. I hope that the new Pope will be able to help open a dialogue between Catholics on the left and Catholics on the right and everybody in between, and I wish him every success in continuing to make the Catholic Church

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Collegian is responsible for showing both sides

Dear Editor,

In response to your column in the *Collegian* on March 31, 2005 regarding Terri Schiavo, I am not writing to debate the issues you spoke about. Instead, the issue that I really want to address is the tone of your article.

Everyone is entitled to their opinion in our nation. That is what makes the United States such a great nation—freedom. Nevertheless, the way in which you chose to approach such a heated topic is not only embarrassing to the *Collegian* staff, but also condescending, close-minded and unintelligent.

Considering the positions you hold as an American citizen as well as the editor-in-chief, it is important to keep in mind the audience for whom you write. While there obviously will be people who agree with your opinions, and people who disagree as well, there are also people who are uneducated about the topic. Since you have the power to address such a large group of people on important topics, it is your responsibility to educate your audience not only on your opinion but also on the opinion opposing yours. Furthermore, and most importantly, there are people that have experienced first-hand the issues that you have discussed. As a result of your word choices, your message gets lost in your authoritative tone. People are naturally defensive to issues they believe strongly in and also have first-hand experience in. The language in your article, therefore, forced those who disagreed with your opinions to disregard your overlying message.

While reading your article with major difficulty as a result of my experience and opposing opinion, I will say that I am educated enough on the topics discussed to look past your offensive jargon and respect your opinions. Nevertheless, I advise you to be more careful with your words in future articles. For example, "pro-abortionists claim that pregnant women have a 'right to choose' to murder their babies" is a loaded statement. For an editor-in-chief expressing your opinions publicly it would be more professional, intelligent and appropriate to have stated something along these lines: "pro-abortionists believe that women carrying a fetus should be allowed to decide the future of their pregnancy." You not only leave out the distasteful terminology that preaches to a mixed opinioned audience, you also educate those who are uneducated about the topic. In conclusion, while I disagree with your opinions, I think that it should be noted that your choice of words, as an editor-in-chief, should be carefully chosen in future articles on such heated issues.

— Elizabeth Aragona '05

Evening of children's books

BY KATIE PEPPER
Staff Writer

Although the decorations from the Black and White Ball still covered the walls, a very different atmosphere pervaded the Horn Gallery last Thursday night. Comfortable couches and chairs were littered with candy, and a plethora of beloved children's books was piled on the table. The Horn was the setting for An Evening of Children's Literature, a NightCAPS event sponsored by the Kenyon English Department and Kenyon Campus Community Development Fund.

"We're trying to give people a chance to get together and read literature that's fun and still says something," said Jessica Tindira, '07, a member of NightCAPS. Tindira helped organize the event, along with Allison Whipple, '06 and Amy Strieter '07. Tindira added that the event was "basically just to blow off steam."

NightCAPS offered refreshments that were appropriate to the theme, such as cookies, milk, and graham crackers.

"It helped me relax," said

Rebecca Eckart '07. She said that she came to the event because of her love for books "like *The Hobbit*, *Black Beauty*, and *Peter Pan*," and the childhood memories they evoke.

This event was one of the activities that NightCAPS organizes three times per semester. Each session focuses on a different author or genre and aims to introduce people to new kinds of literature, as well as to get them to read outside of school. The sessions also give students and teachers a chance to interact in a casual setting.

The Evening of Children's Literature was hosted by visiting Professor Fanny Howe, Richard L. Thomas Professor of Creative Writing. She currently teaches Writing for Children and Advanced Poetry Writing.

Howe discussed and answered questions about children's literature before opening the reading. She emphasized the value of the unique individual and the value of cooperation as the two main themes of children's literature.

"These two parallel ideas are prevalent all through stories," said Howe. She also

underlined the importance of children's literature as a source of hope, morals and encouragement for children. While older children's stories, such as the Grimm Brothers' fairytales, used magic frequently, it is the goal of contemporary children's literature to illustrate "what you would do in place of magic," according to Howe.

Hearing Howe read was a treat in itself, according to the students who attended.

"It was a really nice opportunity to just sit down and chat with her," said Strieter. "She's an amazing writer, and she's told us that she's not planning to teach after finishing her workshops at Kenyon."

Many of the students were delighted to hear and reminisce about some of their forgotten childhood books such as *Miss Nelson* and *Babar*.

The upcoming NightCAP activity, a reading of Shakespearean works, is the most popular one of the year and was hosted last year by the English Department Head, Professor Sergei Lobanov-Rostovsky. This event will occur later this month.



Fanny Howe reads from Harry Allard's *Miss Nelson is Missing*, a favorite among students listening.

Mara Alperin

Physicist Brian Greene introduces string theory

BY MAX THELANDER
Staff Writer

What is space? What is time, and does it have a beginning or an end? How is the universe put together? These are just a few of the questions that were addressed by string theory physicist and best-selling author Brian Greene, when he spoke at a packed Rosse Hall last Thursday evening.

Dr. Greene is the author of the best-selling book *The Elegant Universe* and hosted a Nova special of the same title, which won an Emmy award. His new book, *The Fabric of the Cosmos: Space, Time, and the Texture of Reality*, spent ten weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list and served as the basis for this lecture. He is currently a professor of mathematics and physics at Columbia University, where he directs the Institute for Strings, Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics (ISCAP). The well-rounded physicist has also competed in judo tournaments, and performs *Strings and Strings* with the Emerson String Quartet, a multimedia show of string physics and string music.

Greene is well-known for his speaking style, an approach designed to make the most complex and abstract topics accessible to a general audience. He considers lecturing a form of performance, and his background in theater was evident—he began the lecture by relating how, in his hotel room several hours earlier, he had reached for a bottle of green mouthwash but wound up with a mouthful of green shampoo.

Greene's approach seemed to appeal to many in the audience.

"For someone like me who

can't sit still during a science class, the lecture was very interesting," said Amy Loria '07.

Greene began by describing Einstein's mission to find "a unified theory of physics." He also explained that Isaac Newton's theory held that gravity works instantly, while light has a speed limit. Using the example of the sun disappearing, Greene showed how, according to Newton, the Earth would instantly shoot out of orbit, while we would continue to see light for eight more minutes. This scenario is implausible, and is accounted for by Einstein's theory of relativity, which states that gravity cannot move faster than light.

Einstein's theory explains the structure of the universe and how gravity works on a large scale, but on the subatomic level of quantum physics, the theory breaks down as the fabric of space and time "vibrates" too violently. This is where string theory comes in: tiny strings, which are the smallest particles and the basis of all matter, diffuse the vibration, allowing the quantum and relativity theories to work together. However, string theory states that for this to be the case, there must exist several dimensions as small as the strings, and twisted together beyond the three we know.

A few students felt that the lecture was too staged and a bit too theatrical. "I felt like it had been acted out 100 times before," said Calloway Scott '07.

Overall, however, the effect seemed positive. Because of Greene's highly accessible presentation, the audience was able to appreciate the far-reaching impact of the new theories and how fascinating their implications were without prior background.

Levingston to bid farewell to college, community

BY JAMES MILLER
Staff Writer

After nine years in the service of the Kenyon community at the Office of Safety and Security, Dawn Levingston is giving a bittersweet farewell to Gambier.

Smiling, Levingston recalls that she began work as a Telecommunications Officer during the midnight shift on April Fool's Day, a fact that her co-workers still joke about from time to time. At that time, she lived in nearby Mt. Vernon and had little experience

in the field. Flash forward to the present: Levingston now lives with her husband and two sons in Bellville, a bothersome 45 minute commute, and is a central member of the Safety and Security team.

A co-worker and friend, Officer Jim O'Daire, notes gaily in passing that some workers it seems are only fully on target on Mondays, but that Levingston is definitely "our Monday through Friday gal."

As a Telecommunications Officer, Levingston worked in what some might call the

nerve center of the college's information network. Along with three other full-time officers and four part-time officers, Levingston is in charge of the switchboard that transfers calls to the proper recipients, dispenses information on campus events, and dispatches calls to security officers in the field. This job is one of the most pressing of all at Kenyon; her desk is the first called in emergencies and requires an operator all 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

As her departure from

Gambier draws alarmingly closer, Levingston describes the move as surreal. Though excited about her new life in North Carolina as a stay-at-home mother, she admits that leaving has proven much harder than she had expected. Levingston cites plans to visit in the near future, but still concedes sadly that "things are always different after you leave."

Reflecting on her career, Levingston observes that she started and ended in Kenyon's darker hours. Her first year

was marked by an infamous riot at the Bexley apartments and now her last week is met with the tragic death of freshman Colin Boyarski. Unfortunately, these are the milestones for her run at Kenyon.

Above all, Levingston appreciates the friendships she has made over the past nine years with administrators, and other officers. She is anxious but ready, saddened but thankful. The Kenyon community, especially those in the Office of Safety and Security, will miss her dearly.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8 - JAZZ SOIRÉE - 9PM - 12 AM - GUND COMMONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 9 - DOLLAR BOWLING - 11PM - 2 AM - COLONIAL CITY LANES

SHUTTLE RUNS CONTINUOUSLY FROM THE BOOKSTORE TO COLONIAL CITY LANES AND BACK - 10:45PM - 2:15 AM

BRING A DOLLAR FOR SHOES!

Playing for Comps: Two Senior Recitals

BY KATIE WEISS
A & E Co-editor

There are many ways to know it's April: the tulips begin to bloom, people choose to go outside for reasons beyond a cigarette's allure and books are brought out into the sunlight. Other signs, however, present the season as less tranquil; this is the month where the class of '05 rushes to squeeze the last of their Senior Exercises into the next six weeks. When the seniors are music majors, this means April becomes a month full of song for all of the rest of us.

This weekend, like most weekends from here on out, will be filled with music performances from senior music majors. On Saturday, two more performances will fill Brandi Recital Hall in Storer. At 4 p.m., Michael Billmire will fill the space with his own compositions, and at 8 p.m., Rachel Oppenheimer will sing a whole mélange of melodies. While both seniors chose music as a major, their performances will be quite distinct — one more reason for the underclassman to take advantage of the senior stress and hear some interesting music, not just once, but twice, in one day.

Michael Billmire's senior recital will definitely challenge your conceptions of a college

performance. For his senior exercise, he's composed a "roughly thirteen-minute work for both live and recorded instruments in five unique parts," Billmire explains. As a double-major in both music and biology, Billmire has made good on the admission office's claim that a liberal arts degree makes us all think outside the box; through combining his knowledge of music theory and biology, Billmire has created a music piece based on the numerical progression of the Fibonacci series.

For those of you who came to Kenyon because you thought it meant science and math would disappear from your world forever, here's a summary of the Fibonacci sequence, albeit from one of your own: the Fibonacci series is a series of progressive numbers that occurs in much of nature. Through many complicated math-intensive processes, it's become apparent that the Fibonacci series appears in the spirals found on seashells, in the birth-rates of rabbits, the structure of pinecones and pretty much everything else on this planet. In the series, "each successive number is equal to the sum of the previous two, e.g. 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13..." elaborated Billmire.

Therefore, Billmire's incorporation of the series in

his work is quite impressive and exciting, and most likely makes his biology teachers all feel very vindicated. He uses the series "to generate structural, rhythmic and melodic material."

While the science behind his music may be slightly beyond the layman's comprehension, Billmire spent a lot of time ensuring that the music itself was approachable, promising he wrote "listenable music. ... New music today is often inaccessible to most audiences, and I wanted to write something that had both an academic basis as well as an appeal to the common listener." That's more than the average upper-level science class can claim.

And just because the theory behind the music is complex, does not mean the composition itself will be; when describing his composition's style, Billmire repeatedly used the phrase "minimalist," citing his "repeating motifs, pulses and layering" as the qualities underlying his work. However, though the over-arching style is one of minimalism, there's a huge range of emotions evoked within his work; "each of the five parts has its own unique character — one is frenetic, another jaunty, another dense and dramatic," explains Billmire.

Billmire's composition,

entitled "Music for Several Pianos, Harps and Vibraphones" features Chris Gray '06 on the vibraphone, Mara Alperin '07 on the harp and the composer himself on the piano. In addition to these performers, Billmire has arranged the composition so that three recordings will also be played onstage concomitant to the live performance, amalgamating the present and the prerecorded.

And once the music of machine and man fades, the audience need only wait less than four hours before the next senior recital. Rachel Oppenheimer takes the Brandi stage at 8 p.m. and will fill the space with her soprano voice, performing everything from Handel's "Let the Bright Seraphim" to selections from Bernstein's *Mass* to Sondheim's "On the Steps of the Palace."

Oppenheimer "picked up the music major" more on a whim than a carefully detailed career plan.

Though she "had no intention of being a music major" upon coming to Kenyon, she "always liked to sing."

Along with the pieces listed above, Oppenheimer will also be performing two arias from Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro," "as well as a duet from that show with Alaina Baker," added Oppenheimer. "Schulber lieder," includ-

ing "Heidenroeslein," and "Gretchen am Spinnrade," two pieces by Faure, "When I Look at You" from *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and "The Laughing Song" from *Die Fledermaus*.

Oppenheimer chose these pieces with her vocal coach, Adjunct Music Instructor Dr. Carolyn Redman. The two "sat down and looked at a bunch of music and basically said, 'this will sound good in my voice,'" explained Oppenheimer. The song selection wasn't a purely methodical process, however, as Oppenheimer made sure to leave some room for a few quirky, lighthearted pieces, too; "We started with those [standard soprano pieces] and added other pieces that we could play with a little bit, like "On the Steps of the Palace" from *Into the Woods* and "When I Look at You," from *The Scarlet Pimpernel*."

Both senior recitals promise a mix of the playful and the serious — the most comprehensive culmination of four years at college possible. Michael Billmire's Senior Composition Recital, "Music for Several Pianos, Harps and Vibraphones," will be performed at 4 p.m. Rachel Oppenheimer's Senior Vocal Recital will be performed at 8 p.m. Both recitals will take place on Saturday, April 9, in Brandi Recital Hall in Storer Hall. Admission is free.

KENYON FILM SOCIETY WEEKLY PREVIEW

Miller's Crossing
Friday, 8:00 PM
Higley Auditorium

This week, KFS presents a pair of classic films by Joel and Ethan Coen (*The Big Lebowski*), arguably two of the most important figures in modern American independent film. The first is 1990's *Miller's Crossing*, a story of gang violence and shifting allegiances taking place in a prohibition-era town. Tom Reagan (Gabriel Byrne, *The Usual Suspects*) is a lieutenant for mob boss Leo (Albert Finney, *Erin Brockovich*).

When fellow gangster Johnny Caspar's (Jon Polito) request to kill Bernie (John Turturro, *Queer Show*), a crooked bookie, is denied because Leo is involved with Bernie's sister (Marcia Gay Harden, *Mystic River*), Reagan finds himself caught in the middle of a bloody power struggle between Leo and Caspar.

If all this sounds complicated, well, it kind of is. *Miller's Crossing* is full of all the twists and turns and double crosses that we've come to expect from crime thrillers. It is also full of the witty dialogue and black hu-

mor that we've come to expect from the Coens. What really makes the film stand up from the slew of other recent films that have tried to recapture the aura of old gangster films is how well the Coens combine the two and add in a terrific story that functions on multiple levels. While being fun to watch, the film is also about loyalty, honor and the morality of ostensibly amoral organizations.

The film also features fine performances from all the actors, most notably Albert Finney and John Turturro. From a technical standpoint, the film is gorgeously made, with carefully designed sets and mysterious, shadowy cinematography. But ultimately, it's the Coen Brothers who make this film what it is.

In some of their more recent work, the brothers have become so focused on being "witty" that they lose sight of their story, but here they are in top form. It's their unique touch that gives this intense, slightly bizarre story its edge. In many circles, *Miller's Crossing* is regarded as one of the best films of the 1990s, and anyone who appreciates a good old-fashioned crime story will surely understand why.

Blood Simple
Saturday, 8:00 PM
Higley Auditorium

This week's second Coen film is *Blood Simple*, the brothers' 1984 debut feature, another story full of violence and double crosses, though in a somewhat different way. Jealous Marty (Dan Hedaya), hires Visser (M. Emmet Walsh), a detective, to spy on and eventually kill his adulterous wife (Frances McDormand, *Fargo*). Naturally, things aren't really that simple, and Visser has some devious plans of his own. The resulting film is sort of like a modern-day Hitchcock, a combination of stylish old-school film noir and the modern day "coolness" of the American independent scene.

Though more of a low budget affair than their later works, *Blood Simple* does showcase much of what makes the Coen Brothers such originals. Most noticeable is their ability to take what should be grim, serious material and make it extremely entertaining, even fun, to watch. Few, if any, writers or directors do dark comedy as well as they do. They have an amazing ability to mix the dark with the ridiculous, and by combining the two they manage to create something that is completely their own.

Blood Simple has often been imitated by young directors (almost as much as *Reservoir Dogs* has been) trying to strike gold in the "hip" underground of American cinema. But no one, except perhaps Tarantino, has been as successful as Joel and Ethan Coen at combining these hip stylings with interesting stories and characters.

This is not to suggest that *Blood Simple* is an entirely silly movie. Not by a long shot. In fact, the film is consistently intense and thrilling, and the Coens prove themselves more than adept at building and maintaining suspense, another skill lost on many of their imitators. The film is carefully plotted and contains of number of genuinely unexpected twists that will keep you on the edge of your seat. The acting is also first rate, especially from McDormand, making her debut here, and the wonderfully creepy Walsh. Aside from being one of the more influential films in the indie renaissance of the past twenty years or so, *Blood Simple* is, more importantly, a startling and original film, and an immensely exciting and entertaining debut from two of the most important writer-directors of our time.

- Jason Smith

Dear Kenyon,

We don't talk as much as we should anymore. That's too bad. I mean, yeah, we used to be really close and then you blew up my Ninja Turtles with an M-80. That was a low blow. Especially because my parents laughed at me for it.

Anyway, I'm writing this letter because I remember you had really, really valid ideas about entertainment and the arts. You knew how to combine them. I think you still do.

Weiss or hornicke. E-mail them today.

Face up to the awkwardness of your past. Please.

Finding beauty in an ugly Wal-Mart world

BY KATIE WEISS
A & E Editor

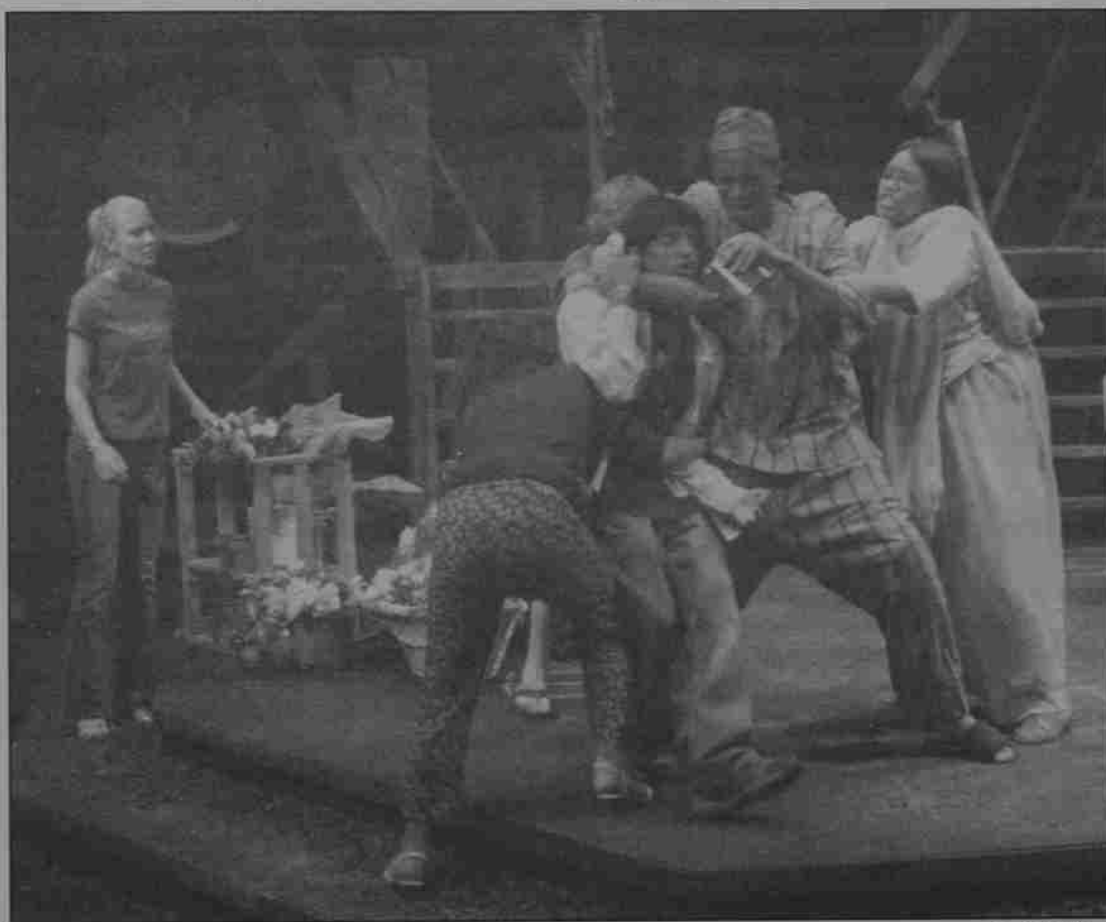
"I think therefore I am" is arguably the most famous sentence in the history of philosophy. But Visiting Assistant Professor of Drama Francis Tanglao-Aguas' play *Abuja Woman* suggests that the assertion of identity isn't that simple. *Abuja Woman* was written, in part, because we define ourselves against the community in which we live. Written for a multicultural cast, Tanglao-Aguas' play was created to allow members of those ethnicities we don't often see onstage a chance to tell a sliver of their stories.

Set against the wood-beam rubble of recreated Los Angeles, the characters struggle to define what it means to be an "American" as opposed to an "immigrant." Allison Roper '05 plays the role of a Caucasian Los Angeles native named Rica Mae Wilson, the only unarguably culturally, ethnically and racially "American" character in the play. Roper described the show as focusing on "how these three different families from three different places are trying to be American and still keep their identity."

Abuja Woman grapples with "the process of becoming American," explained Tanglao-Aguas, "or, rather, an American that is more grounded in an American perspective." *Abuja Woman* asks if anyone is truly American, if that term even holds any meaning at all, and finally, if the term really is applicable, is it still desirable?

"Who would want to be just white?" Tanglao-Aguas asks. "When all those people [early American immigrants] became 'white,' they were disconnected from all that being Dutch and Swiss and Norwegian and Danish brought them."

However, on a campus where the majority of the students and faculty would identify themselves as "white," this is a difficult issue to address. The first problem *Abuja Woman* faced was casting. "Race?" responded Rosiland Baccus '05, who plays Ekta Sumita Kumari, a sixty-year-old Indian woman. "It definitely changed the casting."



Kevin Guckes

Abuja Woman is an intense play combining cultures to ask provocative questions. It premieres tonight.

"Multicultural casting all depends on the sense of artistic ethos that the director has," explained Tanglao-Aguas. "I write this on the page so we can see the interactions of such diverse people on the stage, because that is our world."

While it may not always be our world in Gambier, it is clearly the world of *Abuja Woman*, as the play features the most ethnically-diverse cast we've yet seen on the Bolton stage, though the majority of the actors play characters with ethnicities other than their own. This racial blurring mirrors the racial blurring of our American "melting pot," and in and of itself presents a commentary on finding identity in a country built through immigration.

However, *Abuja Woman* is by no means simply a thesis on race in the United States; originally conceived as an opera or a musical, the play deals with mystical occurrences from the

very start, where Sum-Well, a Nigerian man played by Greg Browne-Nichols '05, hears disembodied drumming answer his singing. Music pulsates throughout this production, from the pre-show of "world music" to the rhythmic opening dialogue between Sum-Well and Ekta, and the final "movement" filled with song.

"A lot of my influences are music," Tanglao-Aguas elaborated, "and music naturally gives you a narrative — and so this play, in many ways, is a musical." However, these culturally-diverse characters' voices do not fit into the constructs of the standard American musical; therefore, instead of creating a rock opera, Tanglao-Aguas melded the music into the dialogue, because

"these characters' stories are not yet a part of the American narrative that's out there."

That's all changing though. At the most basic level, Tanglao-Aguas has used this experience to teach his actors the process of appropriating another culture's voice — something, in reality, all immigrants are forced to do. The flip, of course, is that now the narrative is Norwegian, Nigerian, Indian and Filipino, and not American.

"I read the Filipino newspapers, just to keep up with what's going on," said Clare Fort '07, who plays Esther Teomama Ibrahim, the Filipino wife of Sum-Well. "I researched the psychology of battered women and the history of the lowest caste in India,"

added Baccus.

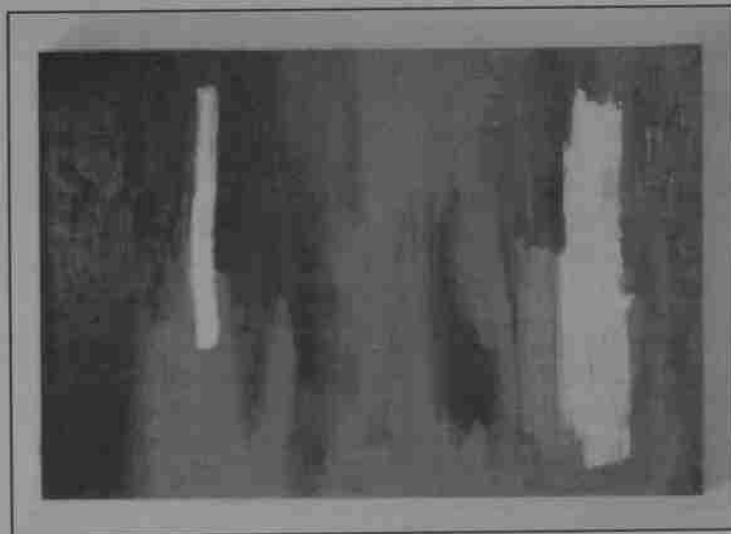
The hardest aspect to learn of all was the language — "Francis taught us how to speak as if we were little kids in Nigeria, by phonetics," explained Stephen Ellis '08, who plays the role of Jorg Jorgensen, a teenage Norwegian-American.

While *Abuja Woman* deals with the importance of our differences, though, it also tackles the greatest similarity of all — our desire for love. "Everybody needs love," Sahadeo Ramharick '07, playing the role of Mohammed teomama Abu Ibrahim, asserted. "The play is about the search for love and everybody needs it and everybody gives it; it's always there."

While *Abuja Woman* shows our "melting pot" cracked into shards so jagged that they threaten to cut apart the social fabric of America, the play also asserts the universality of love. It's this tension, between our similarities and our differences, that accommodates a multiracial cast and informs a play tackling the "American" identity. In the end, *Abuja Woman* gives us a world where all we are left with is the song in our voices and the hope that somewhere in all the individual melody there's a deeper collective motif.

Abuja Woman, written and directed by Francis Tanglao-Aguas and stage managed by Melinda Bennett '07, features Rosiland Baccus '05, Blossom Barrett '08, Greg Browne-Nichols '05, Stephen Ellis '08, Claire Fort '07, Eliza Huberth '08, David Livingston '05, Ryan Merrill '07, Sahadeo Ramharick '07, and Allison Roper '05. The show's lighting was designed by Will Adashick '05, in partial fulfillment of his senior exercise in drama. The show will have its world premier in the Hill Theater on Thursday, April 7 at 8 p.m., with following performances Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$1 for students and can be purchased through the Bolton Box Office (phx 5546).

Painting the Horn Red



Kevin Guckes

"Color, shape, texture — my current work explores the simplification of these physical properties of art in a visceral manner. I have allowed myself to work instinctively, permitting the paint to control the outcome and ridding myself of the subliminal barrier between my body and the canvas. The absence of the barrier makes the painting a more truthful extension of my bodily and cerebral being," comments artist Bethany Anderson '05 whose show is on display in the Horn Gallery through April 16.

A&E Briefs

Critically acclaimed poet and former Visiting Professor of English Mary Szybist returns to Kenyon College to read a selection of poetry. Her latest collection, *Granted*, was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award in 2003 and, in 2004, Szybist won the Great Lakes Colleges Association New Writers Award. This Thursday, April 7, come to Pierce Lounge at 8 p.m. and hear the poetry of one of our own.

Friday evening, indulge your inner child in a little musical regression. The Company, Kenyon's musical theater vocal ensemble, will perform a review of Fairy Tales set to song. Don't forget to remember what it was like to believe in magic. The show will take place in Brandi Recital Hall at both 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. on April 8.

This Monday, April 11, come to the Peirce Lounge at 7:30 p.m. and hear graduating seniors read from their creative writing senior exercises. This public event will combine prose and poetry and showcase the culmination of four years of creative writing workshoping. Refreshments will be provided. All college and community members are encouraged to see these students, as they are finally free from their English comps.

On Sunday, Amanda Cole '06 and Alaina Baker '05 combine their musical proficiencies this weekend with a vocal recital in Brandi Recital Hall at 3 p.m.

Kenyon graduate and Academy Award-nominated writer Jay Cocks '66 comes to Kenyon with a series of film screenings and lectures. On April 11, Cocks will present and discuss 1957's *The Bridge on the River Kwai*, director David Lean's epic story about survival and hope in World War II. The screening will be held at 7 p.m. that night in Higley Auditorium. Then, at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12 in Olin Auditorium, Cocks will be discussing the politics of Hollywood in a lecture entitled "Hollywood Today: the Art and the Business." Thursday, April 14 at 7 p.m. William Wyler's Western *The Big Country* will be screened in Higley Auditorium. Made in 1958, the year before his epic *Ben-Hur* — a film Cocks considers to be inferior — the movie is a story about love and adventure. Saturday, April 16, Cocks will be screening Student films in Higley Auditorium that afternoon. Students in the drama and English departments are encouraged to attend these events and take advantage of Cocks' knowledge of more than thirty years in critiquing and creating fine cinema.

- Katie Weiss and Ted Hornick

PREMIERE THEATRES

Listings for the week of 4/8 - 4/14/05

Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Gorgeous, PG-13, 115 minutes

Saturday, 4/9 & Sunday, 4/10 at 1:00

Friday, 4/8 & Monday, 4/11 - 4/14 at 4:40, 7:00 & 9:20

Sahara, PG-13, 124 minutes

4/9 & 4/10 at 1:20

4/8 & 4/11 - 4/14 at 4:40, 7:10 & 9:40

Sin City, R, 124 minutes

4/9 & 4/10 at 1:30

4/8 & 4/11 - 4/14 at 4:30, 7:00 & 9:30

Fever Pitch, PG-13, 106 minutes

4/9 & 4/10 at 12:50 & 3:00

4/8 & 4/11 - 4/14 at 5:10, 7:20 & 9:30

Robots, PG, 91 minutes

4/9 & 4/10 at 1:15 & 3:15

4/8 & 4/11 - 4/14 at 5:15, 7:15 & 9:15

Guess Who, PG-13, 104 minutes

4/9 & 4/10 at 12:40 & 2:50

4/8 & 4/11 - 4/14 at 5:00 & 7:10

Beauty Shop, PG-13, 105 minutes

4/8 & 4/11 - 4/14 at 9:20

The Pacifier, PG, 94 minutes

4/9 & 4/10 at 1:30 & 3:30

4/8 & 4/11 - 4/14 at 5:30, 7:30 & 9:30

Movies ending this week:

The Ring Two

Coming Soon:

The Amityville Horror,

The Interpreter

Good Times and strange people

A review of Harold Pinter's classic story of sex and memory

BY EMILY PETERS
Guest Writer

In the Hill Theater this year Kenyon students have watched everything from the relationship problems of a formerly anorexic poet, to a dysfunctional marriage during the Black Death, to the plight of a tortured writer trying to find his voice and the woman he loves. In each senior thesis, the actors, director, and crew members consistently gave the audience a strong production, but in addition, a little something extra to think about as they headed out the double doors and continued on with the rest of the night. I am happy to say that this weekend's production of *Old Times*, written by Harold Pinter, was no exception and brought the senior theses of the 2004-2005 school year to a successful close.

In *Old Times*, directed by Sarah Gitenstein '05, Pinter takes a look into the life of the married couple of Deely and Kate, played by Todd Detmold '06 and Beth Kozlowski '05. On this particular night however, Kate's flat mate and best friend from years ago, Anna, played by Emily Culliton '06, has come to visit. Despite its honest beginning as Deely questions Kate about mundane topics relating to

the dietary needs and marital status of Anna, the night that unfolds before them is far from the typical dinner party. In the hours that pass, Deely, Kate, and Anna explore elements of memory, possession, and the shady truth about the past, which challenges not only themselves, but the audience as well.

To begin with, Gitenstein created a strong, balanced picture on stage, reinforcing Anna as the wedge coming between Deely and Kate and the growing size of the triangle that was taking shape among the characters throughout the play. One of the strongest scenes involved Deely and Anna singing and dancing with Kate, in attempts to gain her attention and spar with each other. Neither Detmold or Culliton took themselves too seriously in this scene which I appreciated, and I felt translated nicely into the characters not being entirely sure of the dynamic they were creating. In general, throughout the play, I felt as though Culliton's coy smile and questioning attitude were well played.

Unfortunately, I felt as though I lost Kate during parts of the play. Watching Kozlowski I had no doubt in my mind that as an actor she understood what was going on in each scene, but I felt some

of her character choices seemed disengaged from the oddity that was unfolding before her eyes in her expansive speechless scenes. However, when she finally did speak, her moments of dialogue did let her convey her distinct sense of mystery and left me feeling slightly unsettled, which I believe Pinter intended, at what exactly she was trying to insinuate about her past and her history with Anna. Detmold's animated and incredulous facial expressions during the flash back vignettes of the play helped to accentuate those feelings as well.

Finally, I believe the ending of the play to be the true stand-out moment of the performance. Mimicking an anecdote described earlier in the play, that was, debatably, part of the past, Kozlowski, Culliton, and Detmold paced the scene just right and committed themselves to the actions and feelings of the characters so successfully that the silence in the theater on Saturday night was so deafening you could hear a pin drop. In the end, the audience did not know the true conclusion of this unusual gathering or entirely what was true and what was false: a challenge no doubt, and something to ponder for the rest of the night.

Two turntables + a microphone = sell out

BY GEOFF NELSON
Staff Writer

Beck just released a great record called *Guero*. You might have already heard it. You may not even agree that it's a great record, but for the next few paragraphs that doesn't really matter. The point is, Beck did release a great album and was rewarded with the ultimate scorn the indie music community has to offer: comparisons to his previous work. By quickly paralleling *Guero* to his largest selling effort, *Odelay*, the hipster elite effectively stopped the positive ground swell behind this album.

It will still sell though, just not to the right people. It will be in the same iPods as Linkin Park and Hoobastank, and that will drive the indie kids crazy because albums like Beck's should be kept secret.

Maybe we should have seen this coming. Call it the *Garden State* syndrome, summing up the collective backlash of the indie community against their former idols who have now been embraced by the completely unworthy masses. The *Garden State* soundtrack was the knock-out punch to an independent music scene which hadn't really been truly independent for a long time but nonetheless appeared so until the soundtrack found its way onto the headphones of high-school and college kids everywhere. Maybe even the same kids who might otherwise have been waiting around for the next Michelle Branch record. The Shins, once poster children of the indie community, had to be let go, given away like an outgrown pinstripe blazer, for the simple reason that too

many people had heard of them. I mean can music really change your life if it's changing everyone else's too?

If Zach Braff hadn't gone and made his movie and then gone and made his soundtrack, maybe some of this could have been avoided. But now no one and, especially, no bands are safe from the backlash of the indie music community. True hipsters still remain suspicious of Interpol and completely dismiss the Killers — bands who, had they shown up two years ago, would have enjoyed pleasant popular anonymity while being named heirs to the indie throne. Instead, both bands found radio play and MTV and album sales along with the inevitable collective freeze-out from the indie music scene they sought to represent.

In one sense, hipsters were robbed of a musical renaissance. Instead of privately enjoying Franz Ferdinand, they had to endure the appearance of "Take Me Out" in *Madden 2005* and the song's use in just about every other marketing capacity, save selling Nissans, and that was only because Nissan already found a catchy Modest Mouse song to use in its ads. I mean if Modest Mouse was starting to sell out, was anyone safe? But the shocks kept coming.

There may have been no bigger sucker punch in the history of indie music than the release of "Float On" last summer. Mouse fans were stunned and yet intrigued. It was clearly the most accessible song the band had ever penned, but this became the root of the problem; within weeks the track was blaring out the tops of Jeep Wranglers and Jettas, appearing on multiple

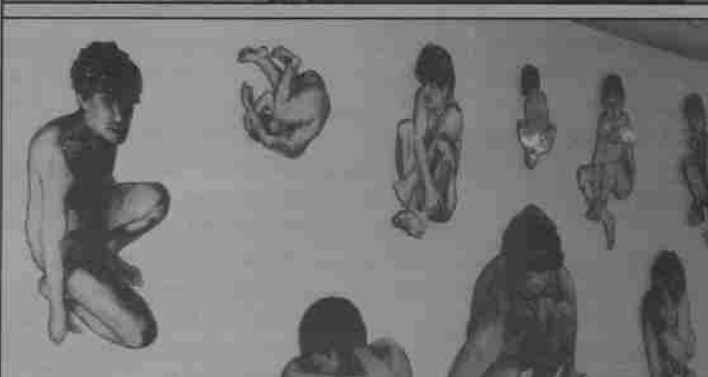
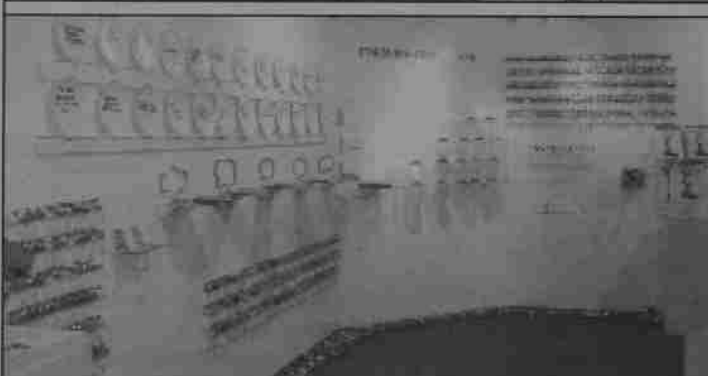
high-school compilations with titles like "Katie and Jen's Awesome Senior Year Summer Mix." As if the hipsters needed more evidence for conviction, sometime last August, Modest Mouse was played on the American Eagle in-store mix, an act that served as an effective death sentence for the band's future credibility.

The Modest Mouse betrayal was the beginning of the end. Next came *Garden State*, and the hipsters saw reliable band after reliable band snatched up and placed in the spotlight to the delight of the masses and the horror of anyone who ever used Kraftwerk in a sentence.

That brings us to now. Beck just released a great record, which does kind of sound like *Odelay* in places but mostly not. And the hipsters are having none of it. Beck was only safe when he was releasing weird conceptual albums or "gut-punch breakup" records, read: *Sea Change*. Now Beck is, through indie eyes, just like the Killers and the Shins, fitting right in with Bloc Party, a group that is about to sell enough records for the indie elite to call them "dead band walking." Sometimes I feel badly about the last two years and how the "independent" music scene was exploded with about as much caution as a drunken 4th of July.

And I'm sure the die-hard Hipsters and indie kids are at a loss, searching for new bands and new hope that these discoveries won't soon be discovered. But denying good music on the grounds of its own popularity is not the answer. I think we can do better than that, all of us. And it starts by listening to this Beck record. It just might change your life.

Seniors make pretty things



Kevin Guckes

The latest series of Senior exhibits at Olin Art Gallery confronts questions of sex, consumerism and perceptions of self. Nick Westervelt, Nike Desis and Angie Arahood, listed in the order their work is displayed above, are the artists on display through Sunday, April 9. Come and see student creativity like you've never seen it before.

- Ted Hornick

Track improves at Wooster invite

BY SARA KAPLOW
Sports Editor

Despite the constant snowfall, the Kenyon Lords and Ladies runners took to the track for the Wooster Invite, an un-scored event featuring NCAC rivals Denison University, Ohio Wesleyan University and host College of Wooster. Both teams improved on previous results and junior Katy Cameron was named NCAC Athlete of the Week.

Both men's and women's teams took first place in the 4x100-yard relay, clocking in at 47.75 and 52.73, respectively.

The Lords took second, fourth, ninth and tenth places in the 1,500 meter race, with senior Rich Bartholomew in the two spot behind OWU's Matt Kempton. Sophomore Ryan Weinstock was the fourth place finisher, with junior Mark Geiger and first-year Charlie Hershow behind him.

Two of the men placed in the top ten in the 400-meter dash, as junior Zac Rosen came in sixth at 58.17 and sophomore Marceel Wieth finished ninth at 1:01.29. First-years Tim Callahan and Mark Muenchan also made top-

ten finishes in the 800-meter run, finishing in ninth and tenth places, respectively.

The next race, the 400-meter hurdles, saw the Lords' only win of the day, with first-year Brandon Balthrop finishing in a time of 58.77. In the last two men's races of the day, the Lords again made a strong showing, with Rosen finishing third in the 200-meter dash and junior Robbie Molden also taking third in the 5,000-meter run.

In the women's competition, Cameron led the way with two first place finishes in the 100- and 200-meter dash events. She took the 100 in 13.43 and the 200 in 27.82. In the 200-meter race, she was supported by teammate and classmate Katie Walker, who placed second, and first-year Lauren Goettsch in fourth.

The Ladies' last event, the 400-meter hurdles, proved successful, with sophomore Jenna Rose taking the third-place spot in a time of 1:11.73. Teammate senior Hannah Hill finished in seventh in the same event.

Both teams travel to OWU for the Marv Frye Invitational on Friday.

Upcoming Track Schedule

Apr. 8	at OWU Marv Frye Invitational	1:00 pm
Apr. 16	at All-Ohio Championships	10:30 pm
Apr. 22	KENYON LAST CHANCE MEET	5:00 pm

Ladies prepared to compete



Kevin Guckes

A Lady softball player tags out her teammate in practice earlier this week. The Ladies fell to 0-2 in the NCAC on Wed. after losing twice to Denison.

BY HILARY GOWINS
Staff Reporter

With two big wins over Wilmington College last week, the Kenyon Ladies softball team is feeling pretty good. In the Ladies' first win of the doubleheader, the 10-inning, two-and-a-half-hour long game came to an exciting finish as sophomore Annie Brobst nailed a line drive down the left-field line, allowing all three Ladies on base to cross home plate. Brobst herself also scored on the hit after a weak throw to Wilmington's catcher could not be handled, and Kenyon came away from game one with a 7-5 win.

The Ladies rounded out the next game quickly, with excellent hitting performances by junior Olivia Tucci and senior Dana Halicki.

Tucci started game two off right by hitting her first ever career home run over the left-field fence and was followed up by a two-run triple by Halicki.

First-year pitcher Stephanie Hemmingson came away with the pitching win in game one, and sophomore Sarah Eisner closed out the second game with a pitching win of her own.

Obviously, the Ladies have displayed great hitting ability; clutch hitting has been a key factor in much of their success. However, excellent ability in the field is also at the heart of the Ladies' accomplishments thus far.

Junior Megan Sheasby conceded that big-time hits such as Brobst's heroics against Wilm-

ington are a huge part of the team's triumphs; however the element that may often be overlooked by fans is the fact that the Ladies have "little-to-no errors in the field," said Sheasby.

Halicki felt that this coupling of superb hitting and fielding have put the Ladies right where they would like to be at this point in their season.

While the defensive presence has always been there, Halicki said, "I feel that everyone is finally getting comfortable with their offensive roles for this season. I also think the girls are finding their stroke, and as a team we're getting into position to be the offensive threat that we were last season."

The Ladies also have the supreme confidence of Head Coach Stephanie Monday, who said, "I don't think our record at this point shows just how good this team can be. We got off to a rough start in Florida, but since then we have really turned things around and started to play to our potential."

"I am very happy with how we have played in the past eight games. As we go into conference play, we throw our current record out and concentrate on making it back to the conference tournament and competing for the conference title."

The Ladies were set to travel down to Marietta College last Sunday for a non-conference match-up at 1:00; however, due to rainy Ohio weather, the game was postponed. Plans are being made as to when this game will be made-up.

Wednesday evening, the Ladies dropped to 0-2 in NCAC play as they took two disappointing losses to Denison University. An excellent show by Denison pitchers Rachel Thomas and Bri Scofano held the Ladies to ten hits and one earned run. After feeling their way through their first two conference games, Kenyon will suit up against their next opponent, Hiram, for a doubleheader at home at 1 p.m. for a chance to regroup and even out their conference record.

Lords' tennis obliterates triad of foes en route to 8-3

BY KEITH CANIANO
Staff Reporter

The Lords tennis team dominated their opponents this weekend as they recorded three wins in four days. The men swept Hiram College, Ohio Northern University and Allegheny College each with a perfect score of 7-0, improving their record to 8-3.

Soon after ending the Baldwin-Wallace College Yellow Jackets' Ohio Conference record 34-match winning streak with their 4-1 victory on Tuesday, the Lords continued their winning ways against the Hiram Terriers, winning 7-0.

With gusting winds coming close to 35 mph, the Lords took the court in less than optimal conditions, but managed to take control of the match.

Senior Borko Tesic, the Lords'

number one seed in singles, blew away Hiram's Ty Papay in straight sets 6-0, 6-0. Senior Joe Freeman and sophomore Sean Stewart also breezed through the competition, winning straight sets, 6-0, 6-0 and 6-0, 6-1 respectively. Freeman and senior Joshua Mabra teamed to win the top seeded men's double match by an 8-0 victory and led the Lords to an overall 24-1 point win in doubles competition.

Friday's dreary conditions did not stop the Lords' winning ways as they dominated the ONU Polar Bears to cruise to a 7-0 victory. In one of the more exciting matches of the day, senior Mike Herrick battled a sore ankle and an early 0-3 deficit to defeat ONU's Micah Scott in straight sets 6-4, 6-2.

Freeman and Stewart again took down their opponents in the singles

competition in straight sets, winning 6-2, 6-1 and 6-0, 6-3 respectively. The Lords' doubles team again stepped up to post a victory. Stewart joined first-year Greg Sussman to prevail over a formidable ONU challenge 8-4.

Sunday evening provided the Lords with perfect weather to continue their streak of shutouts against the Allegheny College Gators. Senior Jon Greenberg held his own as the number one seed in singles and defeated Allegheny's Seth Wilmore 8-2.

Stewart and Freeman whipped the number two and three seeds, with the same winning results, as Stewart beat Gator John Pappas 6-3, 6-2 and Freeman had little difficulty overcoming Allegheny's Reid Levin 8-1. In doubles, Freeman and Herrick teamed to defeat Wilmore

and Pappas 8-1 to secure the 7-0 sweep.

With four straight match wins, including three straight shutouts, the Lords have shown they are one of the top teams in the NCAC. Tesic attributed the success of the team to the Lords' depth. "Our team has been very successful all year long, greatly because of depth, which allows us to manage match ups. The next two weeks have some difficult

opponents ahead, but I hope we can come out victorious," he said.

With their record-ending victory over Baldwin-Wallace, as well as stringing together three impressive shutouts, the Lords are riding some serious momentum into the closing weeks of the season. The Lords' upcoming match is a two day event at Greencastle, Ind. on April 8-9. Their next home match is April 14 against Oberlin College at 4:30 p.m.

Upcomming Tennis Schedule

Apr. 8-9	at GLCA	All Day
Apr. 14	OBERLIN	4:30 pm
Apr. 15-16	at DePauw*	7:30 pm/12:00 pm

* with Carthage

Lords lacrosse shows potential this season

BY JON PRATT
Staff reporter

The Kenyon men's lacrosse team defeated Wittenberg University 13-11 on Wed. night, making them 1-0 in the NCAC. The victory was a fresh start for the Lords, who have played only non-conference games up until this point in the season. In early March, the Lords had the opportunity to go to Sanford, Fla. to play against three teams in a spring training tournament, where they won two of three games. Afterwards, the Lords returned home to face the Hamilton College Continentals, a game which they lost 9-6. Last Tuesday the Lords played against Whittier College and fell 14-7.

The question right now is: do the Lords have what it takes to do well in a tough conference when they only have three seniors followed by fourteen first-year students, seven sophomores, and seven juniors? "We have a number of new faces on the [offensive and defensive] ends of the field," said Head Coach Brendan McWilliams. "Our captains, Geoff Legg, Dave Deal and Dave Neiman have cer-



Kevin Guckes

The men's lacrosse team scrimmages in practice this past week. The Lords are 1-0 in the NCAC after beating Wittenberg University. The team will host Washington and Jefferson University on Saturday, before which they will collect money for a local animal shelter.

tainly been strong leaders this year, and have had to be. In the next few weeks it should be interesting to see who else is ready to step up," he continued.

Between now and May 4, the Lords will play five conference teams and they have a realistic outlook on their future.

"Our conference has gotten a lot better in the past two years,

and we cannot afford to look past anybody," said sophomore Luke Larson, who leads the Lords with twelve goals so far. "In turn, I don't feel that any team is going to be looking past us. Every conference game is going to be close and at the end of the year anybody could be on top of the rankings."

"Ability-wise, we're right

there," said Legg. "We just have to turn the corner and make the decision."

The Continentals, who currently boast a 7-1 record, were one of Kenyon's greatest challenges this far into the season, but the Lords were not able to win because of missed attacking opportunities.

"We had a third quarter

let down, both offensively and defensively," said McWilliams. "Our face offs and failure to convert on offensive opportunities also hurt us."

However, the loss is something for the Lords to learn from, and in hindsight it is something to get charged up about.

"We played well against a great team," said Legg. "We could have won; it would have been nice to win. That's exactly why we all play — to beat good teams. I don't practice for three hours a day to beat up on little sisters. We play to compete in big games against great teams like Hamilton, and sooner or later we'll knock off one of those top dogs."

The Kenyon men's lacrosse team will play against Washington and Jefferson University at home on Sat. April 9 at 2:00 p.m. At the entrance to the game, the Lords will be collecting money donations for a local animal shelter. The Lords welcome everyone to support a great cause.

"The Kenyon fans are great," said Legg. "The atmosphere down at the field has been great. We play for the fans."

Lords baseball team sends Yeomen home winless

BY MARC STEINER
Staff Reporter

When the Kenyon Lords returned home for two double-headers against Oberlin, it was hard to tell where the games were held. McCloskey Field? Coors Field? With the Kenyon Lords' high powered offense and sometimes shaky pitching, the box scores made it tough to tell the difference. The Lords scored over ten runs in each of their four victories against Oberlin, including scores of 24 and 18. They combined for 68 hits and 64 runs in four games. None of the offensive fireworks were put to waste, as the Lords needed every run their high powered offense produced to sweep the series.

Typifying the offensively minded series, the Lords emerged victorious in a marathon 24-22 slugfest in the first game of second doubleheader. The Lords trailed 9-5 in that game, but in the bottom of the fourth inning they put together an offensive outburst. In one of the most productive innings in the program's history, twenty-three batters went to the plate. They racked up 18 runs on 13 hits. Six different Kenyon batters had two hits in the inning, which at one point included a string of seven consecutive hits. By the time the smoke cleared, Kenyon had turned a 9-5 deficit into a 23-9 lead.

The Lords would need every one of those runs, too, because Oberlin surged back

with a two-out, ten-run rally in the top of the seventh inning to close within two runs before the see-saw battle finally came to an end.

Freshman Will Smith, hitting in the eighth spot in Kenyon's roster, led the Lords with four hits and five RBI. Sophomores Brendan Holsberry and Blaise Milburn, as well as juniors Tyler Kavanaugh and Matt Mareinezyk, all had three hits in the Kenyon victory.

The KC men capped off the day with an 11-5 victory in the comparatively tame second game of the doubleheader. In game two, first year pitcher Hugh Guill found a way to halt the Oberlin offense. He threw a complete game, holding the Yeomen to six hits and five earned runs. He struck out five and improved his season pitching record to 3-1. He was backed up by another strong showing offensively, with six Kenyon players recording two hits or more.



Kenyon also took two games from Oberlin on Saturday, led again by their powerful hitting. Sophomore Brad Reynolds broke open the first game of the series with his three-run homer in the third inning, leading Kenyon to its first conference victory of the new season. With the impressive four game sweep of Oberlin, the Lords improved their record to 14-6 overall and 4-2 in the North Coast Athletic Conference.

Score by Innings

	R	H	E
Oberlin...	2	4	2
Kenyon...	4	0	1

Score by Innings

	R	H	E
Oberlin...	3	0	0
Kenyon...	4	3	1

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Ladies laxers enjoy Texas

BY MARIO NUNO-WHELAN
Staff Reporter

Over spring break, the Kenyon Ladies lacrosse team opened their season with a three-game trip to Dallas, Texas, where they faced Bryn Mawr College, Dallas University and Colorado College. First defeating Bryn Mawr 11-10 in an exciting overtime-stretched game, the Ladies continued on to blow past the Dallas Crusaders with an impressive 14-2 victory, and on the final day the Ladies suffered their first loss (18-5) to Colorado College, which is ranked number five by IWLCA.

In addition to heading home with a winning record, the season-opening trip was beneficial to the team beyond the game-time experience. With every new season comes the adjustments a team must make in acquiring a handful of first-year teammates, and with nine this year, the Ladies are definitely no exception.

"Texas also allowed for a lot of bonding time on and off the field," said first-year Amy Zimmerman, "which helped us learn how we play with one another."

Since Texas, the Ladies have played host to both Seton Hill University and the College of Notre Dame. Facing nasty weather conditions, the Ladies held absolutely nothing back in their first home game against Seton Hill, crushing the Griffins 16-3. "It was an excellent home opener," said first-year Amanda Drummond. "We didn't let up at all, and I think that has set the tone for the rest of the season." Drummond finished with a game-high six points on five goals and one assist.

The Notre Dame battle, however, was not quite as successful. Trailing 8-4, the Ladies ignited a late rally in the last sixteen minutes, but it just was not enough to surpass the tough Gator defense, and Notre Dame held on to win 8-7.

Junior Kaley Bell finished with a game-high four goals for



Kevin Guckes

The Ladies' lacrosse team practices stick skills earlier this week. The team travelled to Texas over spring break and returned as a much tighter team unit.

the Ladies, while Drummond had two and sophomore Julia Siron had the other early in the second half. In goal, senior Maggie Rosen had twelve saves in 25 shots.

Last week, Drummond, a midfielder from Mayfield Heights, Ohio, was awarded NCAC Player of the Week. In the two games combined, Drummond had seven goals and two assists. Currently, Drummond is tied for a team leading fourteen goals this season.

However, while the Ladies have the top two scorers in the conference so far, with Drummond and Bell tied at fourteen goals a piece, all seem to agree that it is not at all a one or two person team.

"This year's stars are not so easily identified," says Drummond, "we have a few names that stand out but they are not the only ones who carry this team, it is truly a team effort when we play."

The incoming first-years on the team have played a vital part in filling in the gaps that were left by last year's graduation, and have helped establish the evident depth of this year's squad.

"The freshman class is incredible," said Bell, "with talent spread out all over the field."

With a tenacious lineup and a team of girls that seems to work wonderfully with one another, this year's team is very hopeful towards what the rest of the season will bring.

"I look forward to many more...wins this season," said Drummond, "and I know that with this group of players we can easily take the conference title if we play our game."

The Ladies play host to Ohio Wesleyan University on Wed. April 6, and will then head to St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Penn. to face the Bearcats on Sat. April 9.

Ladies top AC Gators, fall to Battling Bishops

BY LAUREN GREENE
Staff Reporter

The Kenyon College Women's tennis team had a commanding win against the Allegheny College Gators this past Sunday. Their victory marked the end of a three-game losing streak. All of the three losses were suffered while on the road, at the hands of GLCA conference members Albion College, Hope College and Kalamazoo College.

The win on Sunday was marked by domination in all of the matches. Both the singles and doubles match-ups produced wins for the Ladies. First-year Meredith Brown and junior Erica Lundberg denied their opponents a single point in their number three spot match, finishing with an 8-0 victory.

Junior Kara Basler and sophomore Stephanie Paras also had impressive margins of victory, rolling over Allegheny with an 8-2 win. Senior Annie Mark and junior Melissa Harwin earned their number one spot in doubles, defeating the Gators 8-6. Senior Stephanie Cohn was standout in the singles match. Her play resulted in a win with a score of 8-2.

Monday's results were not as favorable for the Ladies as

they failed to continue the momentum gained from Sunday's 8-0 win. The Battling Bishops of Ohio Wesleyan University topped Kenyon 5-3 with only Meredith Brown and Stephanie Cohn winning in the number three spot in doubles and senior Emily King and first-year Paige MacDonald winning in the fourth and sixth single's spots respectively. Both won in two straight sets. Senior Caitlin Looney's five spot match went into the third set but went to Kristen Carney of OWU by a margin of two points.

After the postponement of their match up with the Hiram College Terriers (originally scheduled for April 6) the Ladies look forward to an all day competition in the Midwest Regionals. The event is Friday through Saturday and will take place in Madison, Wis.

The Kenyon College Women's tennis team heads up north with an overall record of 3-6 and a conference record of 1-1. Hopefully their trip will have them prepared for the rest of their challenging season in which they face nationally ranked teams Denison University (eighth) and Carthage College (24) and other solid teams like Ohio Northern University and Oberlin College.

Upcoming Ladies' Tennis Schedule

Apr. 8-9	at Midwest Regionals	All Day
Apr. 12	at Denison University	4:30 pm
Apr. 13	OBERLIN COLLEGE	4:30 pm

SPORTS COMMENTARY

MLB, though rich in tradition, faces historical challenges

BY ADAM JACKSONBEY
Staff Columnist

Baseball is a sport steeped in history. From Union and Confederate soldiers playing the game in their respective camps during the Civil War to Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier and helping the Civil Rights Movement, to Ted Williams leaving during the prime of his career to serve with the Navy in World War II, baseball has always been represented in pivotal moments in American history.

Baseball also has its own history and traditions that are rivaled by none of the other major professional sports played in the United States. The mystery and majesty of immortals like May, Ruth, DiMaggio and Aaron are memorized by new

generations of fans each year. The importance of the sacred numbers 500, 400, 50 and 755 are passed on from parent to child.

Baseball writers praise the significance of statistics like RBI, home runs, batting average and stolen bases each year across the nation. The view of baseball's history and how things are perceived are challenged from time to time however.

Around the turn of the century, it was a common belief that small market teams could not compete against the money that the big market teams were spending on players. This idea was so prevalent that, after the 1999 season, the Commissioner's Blue Ribbon Panel on Baseball Economics was created to study whether the state of baseball economics, in its present

form, created a competitive imbalance in Major League Baseball. The panel found that the current costs for players prevented small market teams from success and that this was bad for baseball. There was one anomaly in the panel's findings: the Oakland Athletics.

What the A's did defied baseball logic. They won, despite routinely having one of the lowest payrolls in baseball. General Manager Billy Beane, a former major league prospect, won by challenging the status quo of building a major league team. Instead of relying on more traditional methods, like using scouts to select players in the amateur draft, Beane preferred to rely on the objectivity of statistics. Even his view of statistics was revolutionary, de-emphasizing

conventional stats like stolen bases, RBI and batting average. Beane opted for the stats of on-base percentage and slugging percentage instead in order to build his franchise. These and other unorthodox methods allowed for Beane to build an efficient winner in today's baseball economy and dared his colleagues in baseball's front offices to do the same.

As the 2005 season begins, baseball is faced with two more challenges to its history. One is welcome, as Barry Bonds, arguably the best player in its history, sits on the cusp of breaking Aaron's home run mark of 755 that has stood for almost 30 years. Unfortunately, Bonds also sits in the middle of another discussion, one that asks if the recent home run boom by players was due to ste-

roids.

Though most of the controversy surrounding the use of performance enhancing substances seems to be detrimental to the game, in reality what it shows is the passion that today's fans still have for baseball and their respect for its history. If the fan was interested only in statistics and winning, then there would not have been a noticeable uproar when the possibility of impropriety in baseball was found out.

Steroids, to the fan, are bad not only because of their harmful effects, but also because they tarnish the importance of the statistics that is held dear to the heart of each baseball enthusiast. The fan's love for the game of baseball and the history of the game is why it remains America's